Real Steel: Remnant League

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Everyone has a hobby liking singing or meditating. Mine was Real Steel. Something I was proud of and participated in every time I got a chance. But since I became a huntsman in training, I could not partake in it as much. Not to mention, it was technically legally grey which limited it even more. But when it became the new national sport of Remnant, everything changed.

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Chapter 1

Real Steal: Remnant League

Chap 1

I was running down the hall to my team's dorm as soon as classes ended today. It was Friday which meant I had somewhere to be today. More specifically, I had a fight today and it was getting close to time for me to leave. Reaching my dorm, I quickly scanned my scroll to unlock it and entered it. Heading into the bathroom, I quickly took a shower and changed from my school clothes and into some casual clothes. Exiting the bathroom, I quickly grabbed the few things I needed and placed them in a duffle bag such as some motions pills, snacks, drinks and some emergency money.

Double checking to make sure I had everything, I grabbed the duffle bag, put on a sweater as it was cold before grabbing the keys I had hidden beneath my bed. Taking one last look at the time to make sure it was still early; I exited the dorm. But before I left, I quickly sent a message to the rest of my team that I will be gone for the day and be back later. Their replies were almost instant. Ren said to take care of myself and be careful. Nora basically said 'Okay fearless leader and bring back pancake mix' which gave me a slight chuckle but I always bring some anyway. And Pyrrha asked if she could come once her class finished. As much as I would love to bring her along, I couldn't as where I am going isn't exactly legal. Not illegal completely but still legally grey. And I don't want to get her in trouble at all nor run the chance of ruining her career or future as a huntress. So, I replied saying that she couldn't come as I had to leave now but I promised to make it up to her somehow during the week. She soon replied back saying to take care and that she will be waiting and to call her when I get there. Even though she did not say it, I could tell she was saddened that she could not come but was made happier when I said I'll make it up to her which also put a smile on my face.

Letting out a sigh, I thought about how lucky I am to have met her and to have her as my partner. Putting my scroll away, I adjusted the strap on my bag before running down the halls to exit Beacon. It took ten minutes to get out as the dorms were kind of far from the front doors of Beacon. But once out, I took a deep breath of the fresh air before darting over to the bullheads. Reaching into my bag, I pulled out the motion pills and took them to avoid puking all over the place while on the bullhead. Zipping the bag shut, I showed my student I.D. to the ticket person before boarding the bullhead. Taking my seat, I decided to take a little nap until we get to Vale. Yet I could not help the feeling that someone or something was following me. But I shook it off as me being paranoid for running short on time.

Thirty minutes later

I was jostled out of my sleep as the bullhead landed down in Vale. Getting up, I grabbed my duffle bag and waited for everyone else to get off before I got off myself. Zipping up my sweater as the cold air of Vale greeted me, I quickly made my way over to a nearby car garage. Getting there, I pulled out a special I.d. to show to the guy waiting at the entrance. He smiled at me when he saw the I.D. and pressed some commands on a console. Soon the gate opened allowing me to enter. Nodding my thanks, I went in and headed to the back of the garage. Looking around, I saw what I was looking for. A big truck. More specifically an international harvester cab over engine. Smiling, I went over and got into the truck.

"Hey, old girl. I missed you. Now, let's get going." I said as I started the truck up. Feeling the engine roar to life, I let out another smile. "Yeah, it's going to be a good time."

The truck started moving and I was on my way towards where the fight was. Moving throughout Vale, I could see many areas that held many great memories. Whether winning or losing, I always had a great time along with the others. Never a dull moment. Especially when there is a betting pool. There isn't always one but when there is, the stakes are always higher. After about an hour of driving, I reached my destination. It was a small building that at first glance,

you would not think much of. But it was actually a front to avoid suspicion from the Vale police. It was disguised as a laundromat building that was closed with two large garage doors for delivery. Yet in reality, it led to the underground fight club of Real Steel. One of the many locations throughout Vale. Pulling up into the driveway, I lowered the driver side window.

"Hey Jaune. Back again for another show or fight?" The guy who was standing guard asked as he came up to the window before motioning for my I.D. Taking it, he began to look it over.

"Hey Jack. Both actually. Got a fight against some bots in the undercard and going to watch the main event." I answered as he handed me back my I.D. before heading next to the garage door.

"Well, good luck and have fun." He said as he opened the garage door.

"Thanks Jack. See you later." I said as I rolled up the window. Moving the gear, I drove forward and down into the underground.

As I was going down, I heard a noise come from the back of the truck but I ignored it as I thought it was one of the soda cans, I kept that fell from the tables. Ignoring it, i decided to listen to the familiar and nostalgic sound of metal pounding metal and steel bashing steel as the smell of oil and fire greeted my senses. Coming to the spot where we get to park our vehicles, I pulled into a spot before turning off the truck. Getting out, I took in the scent of everything before heading to the back of the truck and opening the door.

"Time to get to it." I said as the door opened and I pulled myself up to get on. Reaching to the side, I flipped the switch to turn on the lights. However, as soon as they turned on, I heard another strange noise again. Surprised, I looked around and saw an opened window which I could have sworn I had closed.

"Must have forgot to close it." I concluded as I closed the window before looking over the rest of the space of the truck. It held a desk,

a small fridge and some folding beds with a small closet. Pushing the desk a bit and folding the beds to create some room, I went to the robot that I had brought for the fight. I flipped a few switches which released it from its charging station before moving to the back of the robot to turn it on. Opening up the hatch, I flipped the switch to turn it on. Closing it, I went to the front and waited a bit. A low hum started to come from the robot with a soft green light coming from its center. Soon the robot fully turned on with the light disappearing.

"Welcome back to the land of the living Atom. How you feeling?"' I asked as he got up and looked around a bit before looking at me.

"That's good. Now, come on. We have a match waiting for us. Let's go show them what we can do together." I said to him as I gave him a little pat on his chest plate. Grabbing the headset, I walked to the edge of the truck as Atom followed me. Pressing the button to lower ourselves to the ground, we stepped off before closing the truck door and locking it up.

Walking away from the parking lot, we headed towards the area where all the bots were either being prepared for the carnage that's about to happen, being repaired from a difficult fight, being examined for anything wrong or just waiting for their fight to happen. As we walked through the area, I kept feeling I was being followed by someone. But that soon left my mind as many of the trainers and handlers of the robots here started to notice me and Atom. They soon began to follow us as we continued yo make our way to the spot where the undercard fights and main event is displayed. There was already a small crowd there going wild as a man on top of the stage was placing bets for everyone. Going through the crowd, I was soon noticed as the man on the stage started to get control of the crowd.

"HEY! HEY! HEY! JAUNE ARC IS IN THE HOUSE!" The man shouted causing the crowd to cheer.

"Alright, alright." I said chuckling at his antics.

"Come on man." He said with a smirk.

"Hey Finn." I said smiling.

"I see you are ready for the fight and brought THE PEOPLE'S CHAMPION ATOM!" Finn said before shouting out Atom's title which caused the crowd around us to erupt in cheers again.

"Yup. Ready and willing Finn. And so is Atom." I said to him as I looked up at Atom as he looked back down at me which brought a smile to my face.

"Okay than, let's get these match ups under way." Finn announced before pointing to the spot to show me the bots that Atom would be facing. There were three matches lined up for us. Two were just random bots while the third was a bot I faced before and made the owner lose his mind. It was Metro who was being controlled by Kingpin.

"Let's do this Atom." I said confidently before heading over to the ring as the first match, which was ours was about to happen.

Getting to our spot, we waited for Finn to announce the match. Soon he came running into the ring with a microphone and its stand in his hand. He started cheering and pumping up the crowd. And it worked as the crowd started cheering like crazy. Waiting for the inevitable carnage to happen. Finn then began by announcing the fighters for the first match. He first announced me and Atom as a spotlight appeared above us. Smiling, I started to dance as we made our way to the ring with Atom copying my every move. Every robot and trainer/handler had their own unique thing about them. Dancing was ours and while some people might call it a bit much, there was no doubt that people here loved it. Reaching the ring, we waited for the lift to bring us before entering the ring and going to our corner. Finn then announced our opponent whose name was Round About. He was a big chunky boy that had some similarities to that a sumo wrestler.

'Seems like the trainer really wanted a sumo wrestler bot.' I thought as the bot slammed its feet onto the ground before rolling towards the ring. It stopped just before hitting the ring and waited for the handler to catch up. Once he caught up, they waited as the lift brought them up to the ring where they got in. Once in and in their corner, Finn announced the match to begin and quickly got out of the ring.

"All right Atom. Let's show them what we can do. Engage." I told Atom as he raised his arms while closing the distance to Round About.

The following fight was nothing short of disappointing as Round About was unable to land a hit as he was extremely slow with Atom easily being able to avoid each of the attacks. It seemed that Round About was designed to face against extremely heavy and slow bots as a counter to them. And since Atom was relatively 'light,' it could do nothing except get hit. After a few minutes of evading and landing blows on the body and few on the head, I had Atom stand back a bit so we can finish the fight. Round About seemed angry as the handler decided to try and get close to perform his roll move again. But before it could follow the command, I had Atom close the distance with lunging jab to the head followed by a cross and uppercut. Round About started to move uncontrollably and sporadically as the last hit caused it to have a system crash. After a few tense seconds, Round About fell on its back. Finn than started the countdown which reached ten signifying that Atom won and Round About lost. Its handler rushed in to check on it before shaking its head as some others came in to help take it away.

With the fight over, I went into the ring and took Atom away and led him to one of the spots reserved for us so I can repair any damage that he took during the fight which wasn't much. Since our next match would be after the next two matches, it gave me some time rest and fix Atom. Once done, and making sure that everything was in proper working order, I took a seat next to him, Grabbing my duffle bag, I grabbed a drink and snack to have as we waited for out match

to begin. As we waited, I made some small talk with anyone that stops by. Though, I mostly talked with Atom even though it was mostly one sided. I say mostly because every time I am with Atom, I could feel like he is actually paying attention to me and listening almost like he is sentient. Soon a bell rang which alerted me to the fact that current match was over and that our next match was about to begin.

"Let's go Atom." I said as we got off the table before heading towards the ring.

Once there, it was the same procedure as before. Finn getting the crowd excited again, us going to the ring and getting in our corner with Finn then announcing our opponent. This time it was a bot named Sapphire Fire. And it's appearance caught me off guard a bit. Mainly because most of the time the bots are designed to look cool, intimidating or represent something. This time the robot seemed to look like a young punk female with its hands painted to look like boxing gloves and metal strings on its head to look like hair. Almost as if the handler wanted to make the bot appear more human like. Kind of like a generation one robot. Speaking of which, its handler was actually a young female about my age. Maybe a year or two older. She also seemed very cocky and arrogant as she led her robot to her corner while smirking at me. Possibly thinking that this would be an easy fight.

' *She reminds me of Yang. This will be fun.'* I thought as I exited the ring and readied the headset for the fight.

But that thought was quickly proven wrong as it was a tough as hell fight. Apparently, Sapphire was designed to be a quick and nimble fighter. Allowing her to easily evade our attacks and was able to get out of range from any follows we tried. Her combat style seemed to resemble street fighting. As the fight continued, Atom did take some heavy hits from her with one of the hits nearly knocking him down. But it was not in vain as I soon realized her flaw/weakness. She was weak to counters and fades which left her open to an assault. Not to mention the handler was cocky and would ignore common sense.

She would have her bot engage and get close when it would have been better to disengage and move back. We used this to our advantage and manage to beat her. Using the fades to trip her up and counters to stun her a bit. This also showed the reason why she was quick and agile. She was a glass canon and was not able to take a lot of punishment. A few good hits to the head and the body caused her to go down. Finn and the crowd started the countdown and it reached ten. And as soon as the bell rang, we all heard a loud scream. Apparently, the handler started yelling and raging at the fact that she lost and started pulling her hair as well.

' *Never mind. Yang would never do that.'* I thought as I saw her rip some more of her hair before being led out by one of the guards as some others grabbed Sapphire Fire and took her out of the ring.

"Good job Atom. I knew you could it." I said as I entered the ring and started some quick repairs as our final match was right now.

Luckily it wasn't a tough fight as it was Metro again. And while Kingpin has done some upgrades to Metro like making him more durable and slightly faster, it did not change the fact they were still as predictable in their fights. He would constantly try the same tactic or move even if we counter it easily. This was proven true as during fight, King Pin kept trying to have Metro pin Atom's foot or get him in a headlock to use his hammer hand. And each time he did this, we easily avoided it and counter easily. After a couple of failed attempts, he started to get sloppy and have Metro rush in. But this proved fatal as I had Atom do a double jump uppercut to Metro which caused him to fall down defeated. Though, unlike last time, he did not catch on fire. The countdown started and quickly reached ten making us the winner and causing King Pin to yell out in frustration at being defeated again. But this time, he came up to me and shook my hand before helping the others take Metro out of the ring.

' *He is getting better at handling losing.'* I thought i turned off my headset before entering the ring. Getting Atom, we left the ring before going to find Finn before the next set of matches would begin.

We quickly found him back on the stage taking some more bets while fixing the brackets.

"Hey Finn." I called out.

"Hey Jaune. Great show you put out there." He said with a smile while pocketing the betting money while writing down who better and for which bot.

"Thanks man." I said to him as I looked at the remaining names for the undercard fights and the main event. It was going to be a good time and fights.

"Here's your money. Now I need to go and start the next match. You going to stay and watch?" He asked as he pulled an envelope from his back pocket and handed it to me.

"Of course, I'm going to stay. And thanks for the money." I answered as I took the envelope. Taking out the money, I began to count to make sure it was all there. Even though I trusted Finn, one can never be too careful. After a second, I put the money back in the envelope as It was all there. All eight thousand to be exact. The pay was always good doing these fights. But none of us ever did it for the money. We did it for the love of the sport.

"No problem." Finn said as he left.

"Let's head back Atom." I said as we headed back to our spot. Getting there, I started to repair Atom and fixing him back up. Once done, we headed back to the truck. Getting there, I opened it up and had the lift pick us up. Moving towards the back, I had Atom move forward and sit down in the charging station.

"You did good today Atom. Now take a rest. You earned it." I said as I turned him off and put the charger on him.

Once he was hooked up and charging, I exited the truck while also grabbing some cash to buy some food and drinks at the stands here.

Making sure everything was secure, I locked up the truck before heading to the food stands. Grabbing a burger and a soda, I then went to the stands to watch the rest of the fights. It was absolute carnage as the bots started to fight each other. Only two robots were destroyed during those fights. One by its head being taken off while the other suffered a fatal system crash. It was incredibly fun to watch as I loved the sport and judging from the reactions of the crowd, they loved it as well. But it was the main event that got everyone, including me, really excited. It was a four-way battle. The robots were the mighty Midas, and three other robots that seemed to be new here. The fighting was brutal and at one point seemed a bit unfair as they all focused on Midas. But they were clearly outmatched despite being three on one. And in the end, only Midas and one other robot was left standing. But it did not last long and soon Midas was preparing for a de-cappuccino. The robot's was sent sent flying out of the ring with the body falling to the floor. The bell rang as Finn declared Midas the winner while the crowed cheer at how great the fight was.

Getting up, I tossed my trash away before heading back to the truck. Opening it up, I turned on the lights and entered. Taking out my scroll, I saw that it was nearing eight meaning that I had to head back to Beacon otherwise risking the wrath of Goodwitch. But as I put away my scroll, I noticed that my clothes got stain from some oil and grease. Grabbing my bag, I took out some clothes and began to change. Though, as I was changing, I could have sworn I heard a gasp. But I didn't pay attention to it. Once done changing, I exit the back of the truck before going around to get in the front. Turning on the truck, I pulled out before heading towards the exit. Getting there, I waited a minute for the doors to open. Once open, I drove away from the placed and made my way to the parking lot from earlier. Getting there, I showed my I.D. to the guy who then opened up the gate. Driving forward, I drove to the back and pulled into a free spot. Parking, I turned off the truck before getting out. Going to the back, I opened it up and entered. Grabbing my duffle bag, I looked towards Atom and smiled.

"You did good Atom. See you next week." I said to him before leaving the truck and locking it up.

Once done, I made my way to the nearby supermarket as I did promise to buy some pancake mix for Nora. But I also planned on buy some green tea for Ren as I noticed he was running a bit low. Spotting some Mistral chocolate, I decided to buy some for Pyrrha. She absolutely loves chocolate to a point where it almost scares me. After a couple of minute, I exited with all the stuff I brought for them before heading towards the bullheads. Getting there, I showed my student I.D. and was allowed to get on. Taking my seat and making sure everything was secure, I took out my scroll to try and pass the time. Only to immediately put it away and search my bag for my motion sickness pills. I quickly took them while trying to calm myself down as the bullhead started to ascend into the air.

' *Man, I hate motion sickness.'* I thought as I struggled to keep myself from vomiting all over the bullhead until the pills kick in or we get to Beacon.

Thirty minutes later

It was the later as the pills did not work and I had to struggle not to vomit all the way to Beacon. Once there, I did not wait for the others to get off as I immediately rushed towards the nearest trashcan and emptied my stomach. It was awful but something I have gotten used to when it happens. Though that didn't mean I like it. Going over to a nearby water fountain, I rinsed my mouth to get rid of the horrible vomit taste. With the taste was gone, I made my way back to my team's dorm. Checking the time, I saw that it was nine which meant that they were in the dorm. And the sounds coming from inside told me they were still awake. Opening the door I saw Ren trying to meditate while Nora was bouncing on her bed. Pyrrha was at her desk finishing up something from Professor Ports class.

"Hey guys. I'm back." I greeted them as I closed the door behind me.

"JAUNE!" Pyrrha yelled as she jumped from her desk and wrapped her arms around me.

"Missed you too Pyrrha." I chuckled at her actions which were always cute. But I turned confused for a moment when she let go and started sniffing the air for a moment. It was at that moment when I realized she smelled the chocolate that I brought for her. Smiling, I pulled out the chocolate bar I got for her.

"I know. Here you go Pyrrha." I said before quickly having it snatched from my hands before being enveloped in another hug.

"Thanks, Jaune." She said quickly before going over to her bed and started eating the chocolate with childlike wonder.

"Welcome back fearless leader." Nora said as she continued jumping on the bed.

"Hey Nora. Here, I brought you some pancake mix." I said before again having it snatched from my hands at lightning speed.

"YAY!" She shouted excitedly before snatching and hugging the pancake mix like it was the most precious thing in the world. I simply shook my head before turning to Ren.

"Got you some green tea Ren. Saw that you were running low on it." I said as I handed him the tea.

"Thanks, Jaune. And welcome back." He said before returning back to his meditation. I smiled before going over to my bed and started to put everything away. Once that was done, I went into the bathroom to change into my pajamas.

"Where did you go Jaune?" Pyrrha asked as she finished the chocolate.

"Sorry. But I can't tell you." I answered. This caused her to sadden a bit which I did not like and attempted to cheer her up. "But don't

worry Pyr. While I can't say where I went as its private. I did promise to make it up to you remember."

She smiled at this and nodded before heading into the bathroom to change. Smiling, I got into bed and tried to fall asleep as it was getting late started but couldn't as my scroll started vibrating. Groaning, I rolled over and picked it up and saw that I received a message from Finn. This caused me to raise an eyebrow in confusion as while we are friends and occasionally hang out with each other, we didn't really text each other. Especially at this time. Opening it up, I saw the message was brief but I could tell was urgent.

' *Jaune. Open the news. NOW!'* It read.

Curious, I decided to open a new tab to see what was important. Going to the news shortcut, I pressed it and waited for it to load. After a minute, it finished loading and nothing really caught my eyes. Deciding to look a bit more, I saw a breaking news headline. Clicking on the article, I saw something that nearly made my eyes bulge out of my head.

"Jaune, are you okay? What's wrong? Did something happen?" Pyrrha asked concerned as she saw came out of the bathroom and saw my shocked expression. Ren and Nora were also concerned as they stopped what they were doing when they saw my shocked expression. But I paid them no mind as I was entirely focused on the article I just pulled up. Real Steel, while not illegal, many saw it as legally grey. That's why we took great care to not get spotted by the police. But a new law was just passed by each kingdom. And while not a bad one, it will definitely change the future of Real Steel. And that was for the fact the new law just made Real Steel the new National Sport of each Kingdom.

Note:

A request from a friend.

Chapter 2

Real Steel: Remnant League

Chap 2

One Week Later

Chaotic.

That was the best way to describe how all of Remnant was.

The past week has been extremely chaotic for one reason. And that was for the fact that the Real Steel sport became the national sport of Remnant. Something that no one expected. And now, everyone is either trying to get in on the sport or see when the next match is. Yet, that was just the first piece of news that got people riled up. The next day came another piece of news that nobody expected. Every council of Remnant has come the agreement to build massive stadiums specifically designed for Real Steel fights alone. Enough to fit nearly a hundred thousand citizens. Needless to say, the people of Remnant became more excited than those watching Midas gives his golden touch or Zeus one shotting any bot unfortunate enough to face him,

But that was just the reactions the people of Remnant had. Specifically, the ones who were not originally part of Real Steel before this law was passed. Those who were, like me and Finn, were borderline freaking out. Everyone was thinking that this was a trap and that the councils would be sending police or some special unit to get us and our bots. Naturally, many became paranoid and started to constantly look over their shoulders. Yet this did not last long as a few days after the stadiums were announced, a new law passed which essentially granted us protection from being arrested. However, right now, there is another issue that I have to deal with.

And that is hiding the fact that I was one of the handlers of Real Steel.

"I can't wait for whenever there is another fight." Ruby said excitedly.

"Yeah. The fights are always awesome." Yang agreed.

"Nothing short of barbaric and needlessly violent." Weiss huffed. Yet, we all found out recently that she and her sister Winter would watch any fighting videos of Real Steel that they could get their hands on. "But I must admit they are fun to watch."

"While I don't care much for the fighting, I do enjoy seeing the different kinds of robots there are." Blake added. Yet, despite having a book in her hand, her eyes never left me for some reason. But I didn't really pay attention as I was focused on something else.

"OH! HOW COOL WOULD IT BE IF WE HAD OUR OWN?!" Nora shouted excitedly.

' *Complicated, dangerous, expensive and easy to get crushed under.'* I thought as I lying down on my bed while answering some messages from Finn and various other handlers. Everyone was concerned on how to proceed forward with everything that has gone on in less than a week. Not to mention that many new people want to become part of Real Steel. Which led to many new submissions being given to various handlers who deal with that stuff like Finn.

"I believe that would be quite expensive considering how damaged they can get in fights. Not to mention, where would we put it?" Pyrrha asked.

"Don't forget about the fact that we would possibly need to submit something to become part of the sport. Getting there to and from while also finding a way to transport the robot is another obstacle." Ren added.

"Still, it would be awesome if we had one." Nora said still excited.

"You know, I heard that even Ozpin has met up with the headmasters of other schools in discussing about Real Steel." Coco chimed in. Next to her was Velvet who was watching a Real Steel match that happened a while ago at an abandoned zoo.

"You know what they talked about?" Weiss asked.

"Not confirmed, but what I did managed to hear was the they were all going to get robots to represent the schools. Not sure how that is going to work though." Coco answered.

"I wonder if they are any championships in Real Steel?" Ruby wondered.

"There are. Winter and I learned that when we were watching one of the fights." Weiss answered.

"Do you know who is the current champion?" Yang asked.

' *That depends. The underworld is Midas. Above is unofficially Atom while Zeus is technically official champion.'* I thought while replaying to some more messages to Finn.

"No. They didn't say in the videos. All they say were about the championships." She answered with a shake of her head.

"Who are you texting Jaune?" Pyrrha asked curious.

"Just an old friend outside of Beacon." I answered while closing my scroll. More so to avoid the noisy Yang and Coco starting at me with devious smirks. However, before they could say anything, our scrolls buzzed. Taking them out, we saw that it was a message from Ozpin.

"Great. A meeting." Yang said annoyed. Putting our scrolls away.

Ten Minutes Later

' *What could Ozpin want?'* I thought as we entered the auditorium and took our seats. Hearing someone tapping the mic, I looked up

and saw Ozpin alongside Glynda. Surprisingly, Ironwoods was there along with headmasters of other huntsmen schools like Beacon.

"This is certainly new." Weiss said shocked that all the headmasters were here.

"I am sure you all are curious as to why I called this meeting along with why all the other headmasters of other academies are here as well. I'll keep it short as there is still a lot we have to do still. As you all know, Real Steel has become the official sport of Remnant. It took us a while to find someone to fill out the appropriate forms to officially become part of it. But we did and now thanks to the generous donations from the councils, we have a very special gift for each team of each academy. Each time will be getting their own robot." Ozpin told us.

"YEAH!" Every student cheered upon hearing this.

"Now." Ironwoods began getting everyone's attention. "You all won't be getting the robots yet as they have yet to arrive. However, this will give us time as we also came to agreement to have professional handlers come and train you all and show you how to operate the robots."

"And because of this, I have decided to cancel classes for the week. I do expect you all to use this time wisely though and listen to the trainers carefully. They shall be here soon." Ozpin added.

' *This won't end well.'* I thought worried. Yet, it seemed that the surprised weren't done yet.

"Ah, the last surprise is here as well." Ozpin said as the sounds of helicopters and bullheads greeted our ears. And judging by how it sounded, there were at least a couple dozen there.

"What did you do Ozpin?" Glynda asked annoyed and tired. Clear that she was not happy which I shared with her.

"Let us all head outside." He answered smiling. They, along with the other headmasters, then motioned for everyone to follow them.

"CAN YOU BELEIVE IT!" Nora, Ruby and Yang shouted excitedly.

' *Nope.'* I thought worried.

"I wonder what our robot would look like?" Weiss asked.

"I bet it would look super cool. Maybe we could paint it in our teams' colors. Oh, we would need an insignia. Maybe our emblems?" Nora asked as she started coming up with different ideas as we got up and followed the other students outside.

"The team colors could possibly our aura colors." Pyrrha suggested.

"Why don't we wait until the robots arrive to see how we design them." I suggested.

"Afraid you'll lose to our robot vomit boy?" Yang teased.

I just rolled my eyes as we continued to make our path outside the school. And what we saw nearly made our jaws drop to the floor. Apparently, the last surprise Ozpin was talking about was that he is creating an arena for robots to fight each other. And judging by the sound of grinding teeth, he did not tell Glynda about this.

"What's going on?" A student asked curious.

"I have also arranged for a small tournament to happen as well. Please be careful though. You are all dismissed." Ozpin answered before being dragged away by a furious Glynda followed by Ironwoods and the other headmasters.

"THIS IS AWSOME!" Nora shouted now learning that a tournament would be held here.

Just then, ten bullheads landed nearby. Curious, we all went over and to our continued surprise, the trainers had arrived. And right

behind them were special sparring bots used to train their own robots. Seeing them, I became nervous but a nod from one of them told me that Finn passed on my message to them. Which was to keep the fact that I was part of Real Steel a secret. At least for the moment. No need to cause more chaos and raise a million questions from my friends and teammates.

"These don't seem like the robots we seen before." Ruby pouted. She was clearly hoping to seem some of the bots that were used in the ring.

"That's because these are sparring bots. Our real robots are back where we keep them. We brought these over to teach you kids how to operate the controls." One handler explained coming up. Behind her was a sparring bot with targets painted at specific parts.

"You all are going to teach us how to control our robots?" Ren asked.

"To a degree. We're just going to teach you the basics along with some standard advanced moves. The actual moves you are going to put in your bots is up you when they get here." She answered.

"When are you going to teach us?" Weiss asked.

"Later today. Bout three or four hours. Still need to set a few things up." She answered before going on to explain a few more things. But I wasn't paying attention as I got pulled to the side by another handler who told me that I needed to go see Finn who was in Junior's bar.

' *What could he want?'* I thought as I took the fact that my friends were distracted to escape unnoticed. Heading to a bullhead that was getting ready to take off, I showed my I.D. before heading in and taking my seat. Only to instantly regret not heading back to the dorm to get my motions sickness pills as my stomach instantly started to churn once the bullhead started to ascend into the air before heading to Vale.

Half an Hour Later

' *I hate my motion sickness.'* I thought as I emptied everything, I had to eat into the garbage can.

Wiping my mouth clean, I looked around and saw that all the other passengers had dispersed. Yet, I noticed a section of the airstrip was closed for some reason. But I quickly figured out the reason when I saw some material being loaded that is only used when making rings designed for when our bots fight. Shaking my head, I focus on what I needed to do. And that was head over to Junior's place to meet up with Finn. Hailing a cab, I got in and gave the directions to the driver. Getting there took about twenty minutes as there was some traffic due to all the material being transported to the airstrip. Getting out of the cab, I paid the driver before heading into Junior's bar and looked around.

"Over here." Finn called out. Turning to where his voice called out, I saw Finn sitting down in one of the corner seats. Heding over there, I sat down across from him.

"Hey Finn. How's it going?" I asked.

"Swamped with work from people sending in submissions. Not to mention the fact that your headmaster dropped a tournament out of nowhere. Which brough even more paperwork to me that I had to get some others to help." He answered before taking a sip of his beer. Putting it down, he passed me another bottle. "Here. Knew you don't drink that much."

"Thanks." I said before grabbing it and taking a sip of drink which turned out to be Dr. Piper. "Also, sorry for all the work the headmaster inadvertently threw your way."

"It's fine. Least it's done. Just need to wait for it all to process which should be done by midnight tonight. Speaking of which, I have to ask but how's the gym doing?" He asked.

"Tallet's gym. Doing well. The money I earn helps keep it afloat. But I have a feeling that things are going to get so busy that I might need to hire some help. Add to the fact that I am a Beacon student just puts more things on my plate." I answered before taking another swig of my drink.

"If you want, I can look through some files for some qualified people and send you, their information." He offered.

"That would be much appreciated. Thanks." I told him.

"You know that at one point most of the students at your school are going to find out you are a handler as well. And imagine their surprise when you are the handler of the champion bots." He told me.

"I know. Not looking forward to that. Least I got some time before that happens. And if I play it smart, even longer. Yet, like you said, it will come out at one point or another." I agreed before taking another swig of my drink.

"How are your bots doing?" He asked.

"Atom is fine. In my truck. Zeus, Ambush and Noisy Boy are at the gym. Should take them out for a fight again. Been a while." I answered.

"Do you think you can even get to one of the fights without arousing suspicion?" He asked with a chuckle.

"Doubt it. But I will find a way. And if not, I will just practice with them at the gym." I answered.

"Still can't believe that Tak Mashido gave you Zeus." Finn said smiling.

"Can't believe it myself either honestly. But hey, life is strange, no?" I said as I finished my drink.

"Are you going to help some of your friends with getting the hang of their robots?" He asked.

"Only indirectly. Like subtle hints on how to control them and take care of them." I answered.

"Well, here's to the near future." He said as he raised his bottle.

"And to Real Steel." I said as we clinked our bottles.

"Have to go now. Still got some other work that I need to do, Take care man." He said as he got up.

"Take care Finn." I said as I watched him leave the bar.

Once he was gone, I leaned back in my chair and tried to process everything that happened in the last few hours. From learning that essentially everyone in Beacon is getting a robot to Ozpin hosting a tournament of Reel Steal at Beacon. I just knew this was going to be a headache waiting to happen. Taking out my scroll, I saw that it was getting late and while most bullheads are still operational, I decided it best to avoid Beacon for the moment.

' *Better head to the garage and get my truck and head to Tallet's gym.'* I thought as I knew I was going to get question by my friends for suddenly sneaking away from them. That is, if they noticed that I was gone and not too distracted with the robots or getting Nora and Ruby under control. Sighing, I was about to get up but stopped when a new voice stopped me.

"So, you're the Real Steel Champion." The voice said. Looking up, I saw three ladies walking towards me with a smirk.

' *Crap,'* I thought as I instantly recognized them as they sat down across from me. They were the Malachite Sisters and Neo. And judging by their smiles and mischievous glint in their eyes, I knew they were going to take full advantage of the situations.

Note:

Short Chapter to set up a few things. Next one most likely will have a few fights.

Team Rwby, Team Jnpr and Team Cfvy are getting Robots. What should they look like?

Chapter 3

Real Steel: Remnant League

Chap 3

"So, you're a Real Steel handler?" Miltiades, more commonly called Miltia, asked with a mischievous smirk.

"More specifically, the Real Steel Champion?" Melanie, the twin sister of Miltia, asked with a glint in her eye. Fulling telling me that they were going to take full advantage of the situation.

"Yes. I am the handler of the Real Steel Champion bots." I answered with a sigh of annoyance. Looking back at them, I saw Neo signing to Miltia. "I do know sign language and can read lips."

'This will be fun.' Neo signed with a mischievous smirk.

"What bots do you own?" Miltia asked.

"Zeus, Atom, Noisy Boy, and Ambush." I answered, which caused the eyes of the twins and Neo to widen exponentially.

"Don't mess with us. Those are our favorite bots." Melanie warned with a snarl.

"I'm not. I'm their handler. They are my bots." I told them. However, I instantly regretted this when their mischievous smirks returned.

"Then let's make a deal." Miltia said with the others nodding.

"What kind of deal?" I asked, knowing full well that they had in mind.

"As we overheard, you want to keep this a secret from others. Whomever they might be. Right?" She asked.

"Yes." I answered.

"And we want to meet our favorite bots and see them fight in person." Melanie added.

'And in return, we keep this whole thing a secret.' Neo finished.

"That's doable. However, that won't be easy because, and I'm sure Neo already knows this, but I am a student at Beacon. And while I can get out of Beacon without much trouble, it will be more difficult to lose them if they spot me or decide to follow me." I told them.

"That's wouldn't be too much trouble then. Just tell us the location and time, and we can find alternative routes that no one typically uses." Miltia told me.

"Well, in that case. Sure. It's a deal." I said before extending my hand. They smiled before each taking a turn to shake my hand and seal the deal.

'Now that's out of the way, can we see the bots? And when is the next fight?' Neo signed.

"Later today. About three hours at the abandoned train station. As for the bots, I only have Atom with me. But after the fight, if you all want, I can take you all to Tallet's gym where I keep the other bots." I answered.

'Can we see Atom now then?' Neo signed excitedly.

"Sure, but are you all still working?" I asked.

"We just finished our shift, and Neo doesn't work here. She's just visiting." Melanie answered with Neo nodding in confirmation.

"Alright then. Let me pay, and we can head to where I am keeping Atom." I told them while taking out my wallet.

They nodded, and after taking the money to the register, we exited the bar before heading to the garage. Arriving there, I showed the guy my I.D., who then proceeded to lift the gate. Though, I had to assure him that the Twins and Neo were with me. He still seemed hesitant but allowed us to enter. Heading to the back of the garage, we made our way to my truck. Going around back, I opened the truck and got in before helping the others up.

"Wow. I expected it to be a lot messier here." Melanie said, surprised at seeing how well kept the truck was.

"I always make sure to keep it clean. A habit my mother instilled into me at a very young age." I explained while folding the bed and moving the desk to create space. With that done, I moved towards where Atom was sleeping. Going around, I unplugged him from his charging station before turning him back on. After a second, he stood up and looked around before staring at me.

"Wow." The others gasped at seeing Atom up close and personal for the first time.

"Hey, Atom. How did you sleep?" I asked as I grabbed his controller and headset.

"Damn. Can we take a picture?" Miltia asked, still in awe at seeing Atom.

"Of course." I answered.

They smiled before handing me their scrolls. Chuckling, I moved past them to take a good picture of them in various posed with Atom. Picking up the controller, I input the command to have Atom place his hands on Miltia and Melanie. Smiling, I put down the controller before checking the time. Only to see that an hour had passed already and it would take about an hour to get to the train station.

"Are you sure you three want to come to the train station? If so, we need to leave now." I asked them.

"Definitely." Miltia answered.

"Junior doesn't mind if we stay out late as long as we don't cause too much trouble." Melanie added.

"How about you, Neo?" I asked, turning to her. She just raised an eyebrow at me, which was enough of an answer. "Alright then. Head on to the front of the truck, and I'll lock up. Then, we can get going."

"Right." Miltia and Melanie creepily said at the same time before exiting the truck.

'You know, most would be jealous of you.' Neo signed.

"How so?" I asked, confused. Initially, I thought that she must be referring to the fact that I am the Real Steel champion. However, that was quickly proven wrong by what she said next.

'That you're taking three hot girls on a date at the same time.' She answered with a devious smirk. Hearing this caused me to blush heavily.

"Uh, uh..." I stuttered, trying to say anything but couldn't from how badly I was blushing. Luckily, it went away when I saw Neo silently laughing at my expense which told me she was joking.

'I can tell you're going to be so much fun to tease. Play your cards right, and we can consider this a date after all.' Neo signed before exiting the truck.

"This is going to be a long week. Right Atom?" I asked as I had him sit back down. Powering him off, I hook him up to the charging station. Once everything was secured, I exited the truck before locking it up. With that done, I went around to the front and got it.

"Come on. Let's get going. I want to see some carnage." Miltia said impatiently.

"Alright then. Let's get this show on the road." I said before turning on the truck and pulling out of the garage.

Fifty Minutes Later

"Hey. Wake up, everyone." I said while gently nudging to wake up Neo. She and the twins had fallen asleep on the trip.

'Are we there yet?' Neo mouthed while fighting through a yawn before waking up the twins.

"Take a look." I answered while pointing to the entrance area, which consisted of destroyed subway cars to act as a make-shift entrance.

"About time." Melanie said while stretching a bit. I just rolled my eyes before turning to pull up into the driveway where the guard was waiting for me.

"I.D." She asked while extending her hand. Taking out my wallet, I pulled my I.D. out before handing it to her. "Alright. Have a good fight."

"Thanks." I said while taking my I.D. back.

Putting it back in my wallet, we waited for the gates to open before driving in. Going a few laps around the place, we reached the parking area, where it took another couple of minutes to find a parking spot. Once parked, we got out of the truck before going round back. Opening up the back, I got in and went to reactivate Atom again.

"Can we pilot him?" Melanie asked.

"Sorry. But I don't trust anyone to control Atom." I answered, which caused her to pout.

"Damn. I really would like to have our robot." Miltia added with Neo nodding as well.

"I'll tell you what. I'll try and pull a few strings. And maybe, just maybe, I could get you three a bot. It won't be a top-of-the-line one, though." I offered.

"That will work." Miltia answered with a smile.

'How are you going to pilot Atom? Control or the other function?' Neo signed.

"You mean shadow function?" I asked to which she nodded in answer. "How about you all decide?"

"Shadow function." They answered at once before adding. "Without your shirt on."

"Shadow function. All right. As for the other part, not happening." I told them, which caused them to pout a bit before laughing.

Chuckling at the moment, I set down the remote before switching Atom to the shadow function. Testing to make sure it was working; we then exited the truck before locking it up. Once done, we proceeded to head to the area that showed the fights that were scheduled to happen. Luckily, we did not need to push through the crowd as they all split up when they saw Atom.

"Hey, Jaune. Didn't expect to see you here tonight." A new voice called out. Turning, we saw a badly burnt man covered in oil and grease walk up to us.

"Hey, Archie. Good to see you." I greeted as we shook hands. "Wasn't initially planning on coming but after a bit of persuasion, decided to come."

"That's great, man. Always nice to have more fights to watch. Tell you what. You can have any undercard fight you want." Archie told me before pointing to the cards. Looking them over, I noticed the name of two familiar bots Atom and I faced before.

"Two fights. Blacktop and Six Shooter." I told him, which quickly caused the crowd to get riled up.

"All right. Those two have been itching for a rematch. I'll tell their handlers. Your match will be in about ten minutes. Best get ready." Archie told me before leaving.

"Who was that?" Miltia asked.

"That was Archie. He's in charge of the place, the fights, and all the bets that go on here." I answered.

"Why was he covered in grease and oil?" Melanie asked.

"Oh. Aside from just being the owner, he's also the engineer and helps the handlers fix their bots." I answered.

'Is that how he got badly burnt?' Neo signed, curious.

"It was more of an experiment gone wrong that left him badly burnt." I answered. "Well, we better head over to the ring as Archie did say the match will begin in ten minutes."

Ten Minutes Later

"ARE YOU READY FOR CARNAGE?!" Archie shouted as he began to rile up the crowd for the fight.

'Are you sure you won't do it topless? Even for us?' Neo mouthed while doing a puppy dog expression. Miltia and Melanie were mirroring Neo as well.

"Again. Not happening." I said as I gave Atom one last look over before the match. "All right. Since I am using Shadow mode, stay in our corner and try not to get in the way as I will be moving all around the ring."

"Fine. We'll be careful." Miltia said with a smirk as that told me that they were too excited for the match to listen to my warning. Rolling

my eyes, I loosened my shoulders a bit as Archie was about to announce us.

"SCRAPPERS! PUT YOUR GREASED-UP HANDS TOGETHER AND GIVE A MOLTEN WELCOME TO THE PEOPLE'S CHAMPION. ATOM!" Archie shouted as a make-shift spotlight moved over us as some music began to play.

"Let's go, Atom." I said softly as the music kicked in, allowing everyone to hear it easier.

'Til the roof comes off, 'til the lights go out

'Til my legs give out, can't shut my mouth

'Til the smoke clears out, am I high? Perhaps

I'ma rip this shit 'til my bone collapse

'Til the roof comes off, 'til the lights go out

'Til my legs give out, can't shut my mouth

'Til the smoke clears out, am I high? Perhaps

I'ma rip this shit 'til my bone collapse.

Throwing two punches before raising my right arm to the sky, I began to dance to the stage with Atom, mimicking my every move. As we made our way to the ring, the crowd started clapping and cheering at us. Deciding to get them even more involved, I changed my pace so that the crowd's clapping would be in sync with our dancing. Reaching the stage, we allowed the lift to bring us level to the stage. Entering the ring, we went to our corner as Archie announced our challenger.

"Now. You may all know this bot as he fought in the underworld countless times. Now, he's back here and ready for revenge. Get your greased-up hands ready for BLACKTOP!" Archie announced as

the spotlight came over a bot that looked vaguely like a motorcyclist. Blacktop turned on as the spotlight came over him while two handlers on motorcycles came up beside him. They then proceeded to walk towards the ring while the sound of engines roared all around them. Soon, Blacktop and his handler reached the ring and waited for the lift to bring them level before entering and heading to their corner.

"ALRIGHT! LET THE SCRAP METAL FLY!" Archie shouted before quickly leaving the ring as the bell rang.

"Let's do this." I said while getting into a fighting stance.

Atom mimicking my every movement as the match began. Walking to the side, I had Atom move forward to engage Blacktop. But I immediately leaned back to have Atom avoid a surprise attack from Blacktop. Not wasting a moment, I quickly countered with a hook followed by an uppercut which sent Blacktop stumbling back. Enraged, Blacktop ran up to Atom and tried to clothesline him. Yet he missed as I managed to have Atom duck under in time and fade back to avoid the follow-up attack Blacktop sent our way.

Stepping back away from Blacktop, I had raised my arm to have Atom taunt Blacktop. Enraged, Blacktop charged at us and tried to hit us with a few overhead strikes. Unfortunately, I only managed to avoid the first strike, with the second strike hitting Atom's head. This was enough to daze Atom, which gave Blacktop a chance to land more hits on Atom. Yet, as a testament to whoever built Atom, he stayed upright and almost undamaged.

Quickly dodging the next attack, I began to circle the ring, making Atom circle around Blacktop. His handler got irritated and made Blacktop try and backhand us. Yet, he missed as I had Atom dodge in time and used this opening to land four jabs to Blacktop's stomach before landing two jabs at his head. Not letting up, I ran to the other side of the ring to continue the assault by having Atom land three crosses against Blacktops face.

Annoyed, Blacktop grabbed Atom before throwing him to the ground near a corner. Knowing what Blacktop was planning on doing, I quickly got Atom back to his feet and waited calmly. Blacktop soon charged at Atom, hoping to trap it. Yet, that did not happen. As soon as Blacktop closed the distance, I had Atom duck under his attack before jumping and landing a striking cross at Blacktop's face. This dazed him enough and gave me a chance to finish the fight. Running to the other side of the ring, I started throwing uppercuts into the air, which caused Atom to start landing uppercuts into Blacktop's stomach. Not giving him any chance to escape, I had Atom start to throw hooks against Blacktop's face. After five hooks to the head, I had Atom land two jabs to the stomach before landing a massive uppercut to Blacktop's face, which caused him to go over the ropes and out of the ring.

"ATOM WINS!" Archie announced after the countdown reached ten.

"That was close." I muttered under my breath as I got into the ring with my toolbox to give a quick fix to Atom.

"Now that was an exciting fight." Miltia said as she and the others got into the ring as well.

'Would have been better if we also had a show of you as well.' Neo teased, causing me to blush.

"Well, either way. We need to get out of the ring as our next match is about to start." I told them as I put away my tools before exiting the ring, followed by the others.

'Who are you facing next?' Neo signed. At this, Archie decided to get back on stage and inadvertently answer her question.

"ALRIGHT! WE GOT A SPECIAL TREAT FOR YOU ALL TODAY, A DOUBLE FEATURE OF BOTS WANTING THEIR REVENGE. BLACKTOP FAILED HIS CHANCE AND IS NOW A SMOKING PILE OF SCRAP. NOW WELCOME THE NEXT CHALLENGER. SIX

SHOOTER!" Archie announced as the spotlight came back to show Six Shooter. A bot modeled after an old western-looking Sherrif.

'At least this won't be a tough match.' I thought as we watched Six Shooter act like a cowboy as he made his way to the ring. Honestly, he may look menacing and formidable, but he is more show than a fighter.

"Let's do this, Atom." I said as the bell rang.

Moving forward, I had Atom engage Six Shooter. First, I had Atom feint an attack which had the result I wanted. Six Shooter moved to the side to avoid the attack but nearly fell when I had Atom deliver a right cross to his face. Not giving him any space to breathe, I moved forward and started landing blows on Six Shooter's stomach. He managed to block one attack, but I quickly reversed it and turned it to having Atom pin Six Shooter's right arm. He tried to escape but failed when I had Atom land blow after blow on Six Shooter's face. After the tenth hit, Six Shooter managed to free himself and deliver a backhand to Atom's head, dazing him temporarily. However, instead of capitalizing on the opportunity, Six Shooter turned to the crowd and taunted us.

Annoyed, I had Atom quickly get back to his feet and land a massive cross into Six Shooter's face as he turned around to face us. The attack sent him into the corner dazed. Running around the ring, I continued the assault by having Atom alternate between attacking Six Shooter in the stomach and the face. Stepping back, I saw Six Shooter was on his last legs. Going back in, I ducked under a wild swing before heaving Atom land a massive right uppercut to Six Shooter. But, instead of the attack sending Six Shooter out of the ring, it instead caused Six Shooter's head to go flying away with the body falling to the ground motionless.

"ATOM WINS! AND SIX-SHOOTER IS SENT TO THE UNDERTAKER!" Archie announced as the crowd went wild while some workers came and took Six Shooter away to repair him.

"Good job, Atom." I said as I went into the ring to bring him out.

'That certainly was an awesome match.' Neo signed as she and the twins walked up to us.

"With lots of carnage. Just the way we like a fight." Miltia added.

"Thanks. Now, how about we head back to the truck. It's getting late." I told them after checking the time on my scroll.

"Oh, pooh. And here I thought we could end this at a love hotel." Melanie teased with a smile which only made me roll my eyes.

"Anyway, before head over to where you keep the other bots, is there any place nearby to grab a bite to eat?" Miltia asked.

"Unfortunately, most places around here are already closed. However, if you want, I can make you all something to eat when we get to where I keep the other bots." I offered.

'Dinner and a show. Maybe we can consider this a date after all.' Neo teased with a wink and smirk. I just rolled my eyes at her.

"Whatever you say. Let's get going." I told them as we headed back to the truck.

Note:

SentinalSlice: Quite honestly, I completely forgot about Salem and Cinder when I wrote the last chapter. And yes, Jaune is the handler of all but one of the champion bots. The one he is not the handler of is Midas. Artie Bakker, the guy with the eyepatch, is the handler of Midas.

Chapter 4

Real Steel: Remnant League

Chap 4

"Hey, Jaune!" Archie shouted as we walked up to him as he was fixing the brackets for the undercard fights.

"Hey, Archie. How was the show?" I asked him.

"Great. You always manage to get the crowd's blood pumping every time you fight here." He answered before taking out an envelope from his back pocket and giving it to me. "Here's your pay. Have a good night, man."

"Thanks, Archie. Same to you." I told him as I quickly counted the lien before putting it in my pocket.

' ***That's a lot of lien.'*** Neo signed with wide eyes.

"How much do you normally get paid?" Militia asked.

"That depends on several factors. Mainly where you are fighting it. But to give you three a rough average, I would say I receive around ten thousand lien each fight, plus three to five thousand extra to repair the damages the bots receive from the matches." I answered.

"Damn." The twins said in shock and surprise.

' ***Are you rich?'*** Neo asked, curious.

"In a sense, you could say so. However, if you mean filthy rich, then no." I answered before lightly chuckling when I heard the stomachs of the twins and Neo growl a bit. "Alright. Let me fix up Atom before we head back to the truck. Then we can head to Tallet's gym where I can cook up something for you three."

They nodded with a light blush covering their faces. Heading back to the area where the bots get repaired, I started to make the repairs that Atom needed. As I was repairing Atom, I noticed that while he did not suffer any severe damage, a few parts required replacing as they were pretty worn down. Although, it was a bit hard to put my entire focus on Atom as Neo and the twins either kept asking questions about Real Steel or teased me. Luckily, I didn't miss anything after giving Atom a quick look over. Satisfied, I put away my tools before moving to switch Atom back to the controller setting. Picking up the remote, we then made our way to the truck. Getting there, I opened up the back of the truck before allowing the lift to bring us up. Moving to the back, I made space before having Atom sit so, I could turn him off.

"You did good, Atom. As always. Now have a quick nap." I told him as I hooked him to the charging station.

"Do you always talk to your bots?" Miltia asked, curious.

"Yes. While others not part of Real Steel might think that our bots are nothing more than bolts and steel, we handlers see them as part of the family. Although I will admit that whenever I am alone, I sometimes feel that Atom is sentient." I answered. Turning back to them, I saw that my answer only confused them further.

"You mean as in alive?" Melanie asked.

"It's tough to explain, but when I'm with Atom, I would occasionally talk to him. Yet, as I talk with him, I feel like he is listening to me. From time to time, I can swear that he is also speaking back." I answered.

"Wow, you sure do care for your bots a lot if you think one of them can speak back." Miltia remarked, bored.

"We'll be in the front." Melanie added before she and Miltia exited the truck.

'I believe you.' Neo signed after tapping my shoulder to get my attention.

"You do?" I asked, surprised.

'I always had a feeling that Atom was special in more ways than one.' She answered before heading to the front of the truck.

"You hear that Atom." I said, turning to face him. Despite him not on, I still felt like he was listening to me. "Everyone thinks your special. Good night."

Exiting the truck, I closed the back before heading to the front. Getting in, I turned on the truck before pulling out of the parking lot and heading to the exit.

"How long until we get to your place?" Miltia asked.

"Roughly two hours. A bit more if the traffic is heavy, but it's night, so it should be even quicker." I answered as I pulled onto the road. "Take a nap if you want. I'll wake you all up when we get there."

"Thanks." Miltia said before closing her eyes.

"Better not try anything." Melanie warned.

"I won't." I assured them.

"Good." She said before closing her eyes as well.

'Don't worry. They may seem like bitches, but they're not so bad when you get to know them.' Neo signed.

"I believe you. Anyway, you can take a nap as well." I told her. She seemed to think this over before giving me a mischievous smirk.

'I think I will stay up and enjoy this peaceful night with my date.' She teased before laying her head on my arm. I blushed hard at this yet rolled my eyes while smiling.

One Hour Fifty Minutes Later

'Tallet's gym. Been a while.' I thought as I backed up into the side alleyway of the gym. Turning to the Twins and Neo, I saw that they were all fast asleep. Though, I did blush a bit when I felt Neo snuggle up to me a bit. Turning off the truck, I moved a bit so I could wake them up.

"We're here, everyone." I said as I gently shook Neo and Miltia.

"Already?" Miltia asked through a yawn before waking up Melanie.

'When did I doze off?' Neo asked while rubbing her eyes.

"About a half-hour after you teased me and laid your head on my arm." I answered as I unbuckled myself.

"Lucky." I heard Miltia mutter under her breath only to glare when Neo sent a smirk her way.

I just ignored them as we got out of the truck. Going around, I opened the back before heading in and powering Atom back up. Grabbing the controller, I had him follow me as we exited the truck before locking it up. Once done, I took out my keys before walking over to the side door of the gym and opening the entrance.

"Welcome to Tallet's gym." I said as we entered the building. Looking around, we saw the various equipment I have for training the bots.

"Not what we were expecting. But certainly, has a homey feeling." Miltia commented.

"This is just where I train the bots or allow other handlers to train their bots." I explained as I turned on the rest of the lights before leading everyone to the other side of the room. On the wall were five giant metal boxes I used to store the bots when I knew I would be away for a while.

"Where do you sleep then?" Melanie asked.

"On the second floor." I answered.

'Can we see the other bots?' Neo asked.

"Are you sure you want to see the bots?" I asked, smiling.

"YES!" They answered, shouting. Well, the twins shouted while Neo nodded excitedly.

Chuckling, I turned around and started flipping a few switches on the wall. The metal boxes emitting a hissing sound as the doors opened. A second later, and all the bots I have stepped out of their respective boxes toward us. They looked around for a moment in what seemed like confusion before turning to face me.

"Everyone. Meet my bots. Atom, Zeus, Noisy Boy, and Ambush." I introduced.

"Awesome." The twins said simultaneously as they and Neo moved closed and began to look over each of the bots. Although, it seems that their attention was mostly on Noisy Boy. Smiling, I grabbed Noisy Boy's remote from the nearby table.

"I see you three like Noisy Boy. Care to take a picture with him?" I asked. They nodded immediately before moving to stand in front of him.

Chuckling, I grabbed their scrolls and took pictures of them in various poses with all of my bots. Although, admittedly, the best one was when I had Zeus pick them up and place them on his shoulders while posing. However, our stomachs growling reminded us that none of us had eaten yet.

"Guess that's my cue to make us something. Is there anything you three feel like eating?" I asked as I had Zeus put them down. They discuss it for a moment before answering.

"Think you can make something that involves tacos?" Miltia asked.

"Sure. Before I do so, I need to know if there is anything you three can't have. As in allergies." I told them.

"Well, Neo can't have walnuts while Miltia and I aren't allergic to any food." Melanie answered.

"Okay, I can work with that. Give me about fifteen minutes, and the food will be ready." I told them.

'Mind if we help?' Neo asked.

"Of course. The more, the merrier." I answered. They smiled before following me into the kitchen.

Half an Hour Later

'Wow, that was exhausting. Yet really fun.' I thought as I sat down at the table.

Typically, the dish we made, fish chicken tacos with spicy salsa, would have taken longer to prepare. Yet, thanks to Neo and the Twin's help, the food was ready in only half an hour. And judging by their faces and sounds of delight they were making; I could tell they loved the food. Although we would have finished sooner had Miltia and Neo not teased me so much.

"When is the next available fight?" Melanie asked.

"There won't be any fights for a while. Mainly because at specific points in the year, all arenas will be closed for cleaning and maintenance." I answered.

"Damn. And here we wanted to see more fights. Especially with your other bots." Miltia pouted. Though, this reminded me of something I learned earlier.

"I just remembered that there is going to be another tournament coming up." I told them.

'I thought you said that the arenas are closed?' Neo signed.

"Yes. However, I just recalled that Ozpin has organized a tournament at Beacon." I explained.

"How does that help us?" Melanie asked, confused.

"Well, Ozpin made this tournament as a show for the students of Beacon since he and the other headmaster brought bots for the students. Technically, while I'm not part of the tournament, a close friend is responsible for the setup. I can give him a call so he can pull a few strings and get us in." I explained.

"Really?" The twins creepily asked at the same time.

"Yes. Before I head to bed, I can give him a call to set everything up." I answered.

"Speaking of which, do you mind if we stay here for the night?" Miltia asked.

"Fine by me. I have a few guest bedrooms on the second floor ready that you can all use. Although, since it's a nice night, you can use the terrace I have as well. Just be careful not to lock yourselves out." I answered.

"We'll take the terrace. Don't try anything funny, though." Melanie warned.

"I won't. Anyway, it's getting late. I better-" I began but stopped when I felt my scroll vibrate. "Excuse me."

'Who is it?' Neo signed as I took out my scroll.

"Just my friends from Beacon. They only just noticed that I was gone and are messaging me to see where I went and If I'm okay." I answered while sending a message back to my friends.

"They only *just* noticed your absence?" Miltia asked, sounding shocked.

"Yeah, but it's mainly because some handlers were most likely training them." I explained while putting away my scroll. "Well, it's late, so I'm off to bed. If any of you need anything, my room is at the end of the hall. Night."

"Night." The twins simultaneously said while Neo nodded her head.

Exiting the kitchen, I went over to where the ring was. Moving to where the bots still were, I picked up their controllers and had them walk back into their storage boxes. Once done, I headed to the stairs to go up to the second floor. Walking down the hall, I went to my room before going into my bathroom to take a shower. Stepping out a few minutes later, I went to my dresser and changed into my pajamas before going to bed. But not before sending a message to Finn to ask if he could get me into the tournament.

"Today was fun." I said before falling asleep.

Next Day

'So damn good to be able to sleep in my bed again.' I thought while rubbing my eyes and letting out a massive yawn.

However, as I tried to get up, I felt a strange weight on my chest. Looking down, I saw something I was not expecting at all. Neo, on my chest, smiling at me. Although, that smile changed to a smirk as she reached down to grab her shirt. Eyes widening, I was about to say something but couldn't when Neo suddenly shatter like glass.

'What the-Oh, right, her semblance.' I thought, remembering that Neo can create illusions.

Shrugging it off, I got out of bed before changing out of my pajamas and into some casual clothes. Grabbing my scroll, I saw that I had a message from Finn. Opening it, I noticed that he got my message

last night and managed to secure me a spot in Ozpin's tournament. Smiling, I sent him a message back thanking him before putting my scroll away. Turning around, I grabbed my keys before exiting my room and heading downstairs. Looking around, I saw that Neo and the twins were already awake. However, what caught my attention was the giant box they were inspecting, which could fit a bot.

"Morning." I greeted, walking over to them.

"Morning." The twins said simultaneously.

'Enjoyed my little show?' Neo teased which I rolled my eyes while smiling.

"Who delivered the box?" I asked.

"Not sure. The people at the door said they wanted to deliver this to you. We told them that you were still asleep." Miltia answered.

"They then groaned before bringing the box inside and leaving." Melanie added.

'Do you have any idea what's in there?' Neo asked as I checked the postages stamps on the box. Noticing a letter, I picked it up and began to read it.

"A surprise that you three will like." I answered before moving to open the box.

"Can you be a bit more specific?" Melanie asked, annoyed. Smirking, I unhooked the last strap holding the box together.

"Sure. Ladies, meet Twin Cities." I answered as I opened the box to reveal the well-known bot with two heads. Grabbing the controller, I turned Twin Cities on before having him walk out the box.

"Woah." The twins said in shock while stepping back.

'Wasn't Twin Cities that first bot you faced with Atom in the professional league?' Neo signed.

"He sure was. He gave Atom and me a tough as hell fight, but we still won in the end." I answered as I had Twin Cities follow me to where I kept my other bots.

"Can we pilot him?" Miltia asked.

"Another time, maybe. Right now, I have to head back to Beacon before my team starts a search and rescue. Well, to be frank, it would be more of a search and destroy, to be honest." I answered before asking. "Don't you two have to work as well?"

"Not for the rest of the week. Junior called and said that the club is closed for the next couple of days to repair the damages some drunks did." Melanie answered.

"How about you, Neo?" I asked, turning to her.

'I'm on vacation. Don't have to work for the rest of the week.' She answered.

"Before I forget, did you message your friend about the tournament?" Melanie asked.

"Yes, I message him." I answered.

"What did he say?" Miltia asked.

"He got me in the tournament. But that's not all. I asked if there were any available bots for purchase. Luckily, there were a couple of bots up for purchase." I answered.

"And?" They asked. Pure excitement was evident in their eyes.

"I got each of you a bot. They should be here in a couple of days." I answered.

"YES! THANK YOU!" The twins cheered in excitement while Neo wore a shocked expression.

"You're welcome. Anyway, mind helping me load Noisy Boy into the truck. I'm planning on using him in the tournament." I asked.

"Sure." They answered.

Smiling, I tossed them the keys to the truck. Catching it, they then exited the gym. Although, only the twins left as Neo stayed behind and followed me to the other side of the gym. Opening up Noisy Boy's container, I turned him on before grabbing his remote. Flicking it on, I had Noisy boy follow us out of the gym to the truck where the twins were waiting for us. Steeping on the lift, we let it bring us up before moving to the back of the truck. I then had Noisy Boy sit down before powering him off and connecting him to the charging station. Once done, I exited the truck.

"Alright, thanks for the help. Now let's get going." I said before going around getting in the front of the truck.

"Mind if we get some breakfast first, though?" Miltia asked as she and the others got in as well.

"Of course." I answered as I started up the truck. "And I know just the place."

Two Hours Later

"When is the tournament?" Miltia asked while eating a breakfast sandwich.

"Tomorrow evening. Everything is ready. We only need to wait for the rest of the handlers to arrive." I answered.

"You're going to bring us, right?" Melanie asked in a tone that told me I better bring them, or else.

'Oh, I didn't think you would take me on another date so soon.' Neo teased.

"Maybe we can consider this a date. What you say?" Miltia asked.

Although, from the corner of my eye, I saw her glaring at Neo, who just smirked at her. I just rolled my eyes while continuing to focus on the road. Though, I briefly wondered if she was actually asking that or only teasing me. Seeing the garage coming up, I pulled up before giving my I.D. to the guard. A moment later, he gave it back before moving to open the gate. Driving towards the back, I quickly found a free spot. Parking there, I turned off the truck before getting out.

'Well, that was fun.' Neo signed,

"Sure was. And we get to see some more carnage tomorrow." Melanie added.

"When and where should we meet up?" Miltia asked.

"Maybe around noon." I suggested.

"That works. See you tomorrow." The twins said before leaving. Turning to Neo, I saw that she had a big smirk.

'See you tomorrow, cutie. Also, I added my number to your scroll when you weren't looking. Bye.' She signed before quickly leaving.

Chuckling, I went back to the front of the truck to grab the bag that I had brought with me. Slinging it over my shoulder, I made my way out of the gym before heading to the airstrip. Getting there, I noticed that the airstrip was clear of any building material, which told me that the arena at Beacon was complete. Seeing a Bullhead about to take off, I quickly hurried to get on and find a seat. Luckily, there was one nearby. Sitting down, I grabbed some motion sickness pills as the bullhead closed its doors and ascended into the air.

Half an Hour Later

'Finally.' I thought as the bullhead landed back at Beacon. Getting up, I waited for the bullhead to open its doors so I could get off. However, as soon as I did, I quickly moved to the side as a handler, and his bot came rushing by.

"Sorry." The handler shouted over his shoulder.

"It's fine." I shouted back before moving away from the bullhead. However, that's when I noticed my teammates and friends running towards me. And they don't look too happy that I disappeared on them.

'This is going to be a long day.' I thought as they reached me. *'But it was worth it. Especially now that I'm the handler of Twin Cities.'*

Note:

Next Chapter will have the tournament and lots of fighting.

Still deciding on how everyone will learn about Jaune being the handler of the champion bots. Any ideas?

Should there be a pairing for Jaune or no?

Chapter 5

Real Steel: Remnant League

Chap 5

"COOL!" Nora, Ruby, and Yang shouted in awe at seeing all the various fighting bots moving about Beacon's courtyard.

"THAT'S TRI-GORE!" Ruby shouted as the bot with a dinosaur head walked past us. Although, it seemed that Blake was the only one aside from me to notice the glare the handler sent my way.

'Keep walking, jackass.' I thought as no one ever liked the handler of Tri-Gore as he was pretty cocky and unnecessarily brutal in fights. He always tried to tear apart the other bots he faces in fights. While not against the rules, it became an unspoken agreement amongst handlers to try to avoid destroying other bots in a fight.

"THAT'S FRAUST!" Yang shouted as she pointed to the bot that resembled a hockey player. I smiled when the handler flashed her smile towards me as she passed by us. Luckily, no one else noticed it.

'That was a good fight.' I thought, remembering that fight I had against the bot. It was a tough fight, but Noisy Boy managed to defeat him. Luckily, the handler was a nice girl and a good sport that didn't take the loss personally like some other handlers.

"THERE'S TACKLE!" Nora shouted as the bot that resembled a football player charged past us. The handler struggling to catch up to her bot and get it back under control.

"No need to yell." Weiss said, irritated as she uncovered her ears.

"Sorry, Weiss. We're just so excited at seeing all these bots." Ruby exclaimed with stars in her eyes.

"When does the tournament begin again?" Coco asked.

"It begins at five, which means we have six hours to spare before we have to head to our assigned seats." Ren answered.

"You won't be disappearing on us again. Right, Jaune?" Pyrrha asked as she tightened her grip on my arm. Since I got back to Beacon yesterday, Pyrrha hasn't let me leave her sight. And that was after getting an extremely long lecture from Weiss for disappearing on them, causing them to worry so much.

"I won't." I half-lied to her. While I will be disappearing again, I will be back later. But I will be in disguise so they won't recognize me when I come back to fight alongside Noisy Boy.

"Good." She said, smiling yet keeping her tight grip on my arm.

"What should we do in the meantime?" Velvet asked.

"Maybe we could meet some of the handlers? I think I saw the handler for Blac Jac somewhere." Coco suggested.

"YES!" Nora and Ruby shouted before dashing off to find the handlers of the favorite bots. Smirking, we followed them to meet the handlers of their favorite bots.

Two Hours Later

'Oh, thank Oum.' I thought as the bullhead finally landed in Vale.

It was near impossible to get away from my friends. Especially with Pyrrha, as she did not let me leave her sight once. Luckily, I caught a break when one of the handlers 'accidentally' let it slip that a champion handler and his bot would be showing up. This caused everyone to grow excited, and rumors instantly started to go around the school as to who would be showing up. I tried to use the chaos to escape as it was time for me to leave but failed as Pyrrha refused to let me leave her sights. Fortunately, this was taken care of when a

handler let Nora and Ruby have a sip of his energy drink, not knowing that giving either of them an energy drink is a recipe for disaster. But, for the first time since coming to Beacon, I was actually thankful for it as it provided me the chance to escape from Pyrrha and get on a Bullhead heading for Vale.

"Thank Oum, I still had my motion sickness pills on me." I said as I exited the bullhead.

Taking out my scroll, I saw that it was already ten past one, which meant that I had to go and get everything set up as it would take a while to get Noisy Boy to Beacon. However, first things first, I had to go to Junior's bar as Neo and the Twins were waiting for me. Putting away my scroll, I began to make my way to Junior's bar. Walking over to the sidewalk, I hailed a cab and got in before giving the driver the directions.

Half an Hour Later

"Here, you go." I said as I paid the cab driver before closing the cab door.

"Bout time you showed up." A familiar voice said from behind me. Turning around, I saw the familiar sight of the twins and Neo smiling at me.

'Wow.' I thought with a blush when I saw them wearing some casual clothes. Even though it was only casual clothing, it did bring out another level of beauty from them. I may be dense, but there was no denying that they are gorgeous.

"Sorry, I had some trouble escaping from my friends at Beacon." I explained.

"We bet." Melanie said with a smirk when she saw that I was still blushing.

'I bet your friends would be jealous when they see you on a second date with three hot girls again.' Neo mouthed before flashing me a seductive grin. Rolling my eyes, I looked past them and saw Miltia shuffling nervously.

"Are you okay, Miltia?" I asked her.

"Fine. You look nice, though." She answered while looking down to avoid eye contact with me.

"Um, thanks. You too." I said, confused as I didn't look any different from yesterday aside from the new sweater I was wearing. Although, I became even more confused when Melanie giggled, and Neo rolled her eyes at me.

'You really are a dense idiot.' Neo signed while letting out a silent laugh.

"Anyway, is there anything you need to do before the tournament?" Melanie asked.

"I already called some friends to help take Noisy Boy to Beacon. They should be there roughly an hour before the tournament begins." I answered.

'That means you have time to treat us to a nice lunch.' Neo signed. I rolled my eyes but smiled nonetheless at this.

"All right. I guess I can treat my lovely dates to a romantic lunch." I told them, chuckling, deciding to go along with whatever they were planning.

'Lead the way then.' Neo signed before moving to my side and leaning into me. Although, I became confused again when I saw the Malachite twins glare a Neo from the corner of my eye, who feigned innocence in return.

Two and a Half Hours Later

'I hate flying after eating.' I thought as I emptied the contents of my stomach into the trashcan.

After agreeing to take them to lunch, I took them to a nice restaurant I found a while back when I first became the handler of Atom. Admittingly, it was a great time aside from the teasing from Neo. I learned a lot about them, though I was still confused as to why they were acting a bit strange. Yet, despite this, I honestly wouldn't mind if we could do it again. But I knew that despite Neo constantly saying it was a date, I knew she was only teasing me. Plus, they are clearly about two thousand leagues out of my league. Anyway, we entered a comfortable silence when our food arrived. Although it didn't last long, as halfway through our meal, the twins and Neo started asking me about my personal life. And like usual, I got a good chuckle when I told them and showed them a photo of my seven sisters. Needless to say, they were quite shocked about my large family.

But as with any time you're enjoying yourself, especially with others, time flies by quickly. Taking out my scroll, I checked the time and saw that the tournament would start soon. Quickly paying for the food, we rushed out of the restaurant, and I started trying to hail down a cab but had no luck. Luckily, the twins anticipated this and already called for a ride to take us to the airstrip. After about twenty minutes, we reached the airstrip and boarded the nearest bullhead that would take us back to Beacon. Unfortunately, because of our rush to get on, I forgot to take my motion sickness pills. And since we had recently eaten, my motion sickness was even worse. Fortunately, I managed to keep it down until we reached Beacon, where I dashed off the bullhead and headed for the nearest trashcan.

"Never expected you to get motion sickness." Melanie said as she waited for me to finish.

'Especially since you must travel frequently.' Neo added.

"Motion sickness is more common than you would expect, although I only get motion sick during air travel. I do have pills that help, but I

forgot to take them, and eating before flying makes it worse." I explained.

"Still funny." Miltia said with a smirk. I rolled my eyes yet could not help but smile.

"Where's Noisy Boy?" Melanie asked.

"Not that far. They placed him in the spot that Beacon set up for handlers to fix their bots." I answered.

"Wait. Does anyone here know you are a handler of a champion bot?" Miltia asked.

"No. And I prefer to keep it that way." I answered.

'Then how do you plan on not getting spotted or seen?' Neo asked, confused.

"I brought this sweater that zips all the way up and covers my face." I explained as I adjusted my sweater before sipping it up until it covered my face.

"What do those letters mean?" Miltia asked, pointing to the yellow lettering the covered the front of the sweater.

"I think we saw them on Noisy Boy before." Melanie added.

"They are the same as the kanji on Noisy Boy." I explained.

'What do they mean?' Neo asked.

"Ultra-Evil Man. And before you ask, I did not come up with that. The creator of Noisy Boy, Tak Mashido, gave him those kanji." I answered.

"When is your first fight?" Miltia asked.

"Towards the end of the tournament, which is around midnight. So, we have time." I answered before taking out my scroll to check the time. "But we should head to our seats as the tournament will begin in about ten minutes."

'What seats did you get us?' Neo signed.

"For you three, I got us some front row seats." I answered.

"Front row seats to a live tournament of Real Steel. You truly do know how to show a lady a good time." Melanie commented.

"Maybe we can consider this an actual second date." Miltia added with a smirk. But before I could say anything, we heard a bell ring signifying the start of the tournament.

"We better get going." I said as we made our way to our seats.

Ten Minutes Later

"ARE YOU READY!" Finn shouted into the mic before raising it into the air.

"YEAH!" The crowd of students and handlers cheered.

"THIS IS AWESOME!" Miltia said, excited when she saw some bots file around the ring.

"I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE CARNAGE!" Melanie shouted, also excited.

'Something wrong?' Neo asked, noticing that I tense up a bit.

"Just trying not to get seen by my friends." I explained while pointing to the spot where my team and Team Rwby were sitting at.

'Don't worry. It seems like they are too interested in the fight.' She told me.

"Actually, I am more worried for the long grilling Weiss, and my partner will give me for disappearing on them again." I corrected.

'Oh, I have to see that.' She signed with a smirk, causing me to roll my eyes at her. But before I could say anything, Finn announced the first match.

"FOR THE FIRST MATCH, WE GOT SOME BRAWLERS! THE FIRST BOT IS ONE YOU ALL KNOW WELL! PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER FOR CHROMIUM!" Finn announced as a spotlight show above the robot. It raised its arms before slowly walking towards the ring. Chromium, aside from a steely-grey color scheme, has a bipedal crawdad design. But everyone who has fought against him knows that he is no pushover and can not only tank many hits but take you out in only a few hits.

"NOW FOR HIS CHALLENGER!" Finn announced once Chromium was in his corner. "THIS BOT WAS ONCE A MINER! BUT NOW, HE'S READY TO SHOW THE WORLD HIS BRUTE STRENGTH. OREFIST!"

"Was he really meant for mining?" Miltia asked, confused as Orefist was revealed and made his way to the ring while the sounds of drills could be heard all around him.

"That's just a theory. No one really knows how he became a contender of Real Steel. In fact, rumor has it that not even the handler knows what Orefist was initially meant for." I answered before turning back to the ring.

"LET'S GET IT ON!" Finn shouted into the mic before ducking out of the ring as the bell rang.

Chromium and Orefist raised their arms before moving towards each other. Orefist tried to land the first strike by throwing a jab at Chromium's face but was blocked and stumbled back when Chromium countered with an overhead punch. Irked, Orefist rushed back in and tanked the two body hits before delivering a hook

followed by an uppercut to the head. But to the handler's surprise, Chromium shrugged off the attacks before delivering three brutal strikes to the body followed by two right crosses to the chest forcing Orefist into a corner.

"LOOKS LIKE THE ROLES REVERSED! OREFIST BETTER GET OUT OF THAT CORNER!" Finn announced just as Chromium started wailing on Orefist with everything that he had.

However, after the fifth strike, Orefist managed to turn it around, force Chromium into the corner, and start delivering blow after blow to the body. The spikes on Orefist's hands are making sizeable dents to the body. Soon, smoke began to rise from Chromium's body as his eyes began to flicker as he desperately tried to shield himself from the brutal assault. After another minute of Orefist brutalizing Chromium, it seemed like he was ready to end the fight. But before he could land the final hit, Chromium leaned to the side, evaded the attack, and countered with a devastating uppercut. The hit was enough to daze Orefist for a few seconds. But that was all Chromium needed as he started landing jabs and crosses to the head before landing a right hook to the head, which caused Orefist to go down. The counted down started and soon reached ten, signifying Chromium as the winner.

"THAT'S A WIN FOR CHROMIUM AND SO LONG FOR OREFIST" Finn announced as some people came into the ring to take Orefist away as Chromium got out of the ring as well.

"Now that was an awesome fight." Melanie said, excited.

"Did you fight either of them before?" Miltia asked.

"Only against Orefist. I faced off against him with Zeus before and won." I answered as Finn got back into the ring to announce the next match-up.

"I SEE YOU ARE ALL ENJOYING THE FIGHT. WELL, WE GOT MORE COMING FOR YOU. NOW, PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER

FOR THE ONE-ROBOT APOCALYPSE. FLEE BEFORE... BIO WAR!" He said as the spotlight showed a robot that was designed to look like a wasteland apocalypse survivor. As it strode to the ring, music that would be heard in an apocalypse movie played.

'Been a while since I saw him.' I thought as I watched the bot reach the ring before entering and going to his corner. *'Wonder who he's fighting?'*

"AS FOR HIS OPPONENT. FROM THE FROZEN WASTELANDS, THIS BOT HAS BEEN ICING CHALLENGERS LEFT, RIGHT AND CENTER: ABANDON." Finn announced as the spotlight shone upon a huge and bulky robot with an icy blue paint job.

'This will be an interesting fight.' I thought as both bots have been known to melt through their opponents with ease.

Soon, Abandon reached the ring and got into this corner. Finn got out of the ring as the bell started the match. Abandon, and Bio-War immediately charged at each other with murderous intent. However, Bio-War performed a fade to avoid the attack and countered with a hook using his massive left fist. Yet, Abandon barely flinched before retaliating with his Ice Breaker combo. He first landed a blow to the body, followed by two hits to the face. Then he delivered an overhead blow forcing Bio-War to the ground before uppercutting him and dual punching him away. Not letting up, Abandon quickly closed the distance to try and finish the fight. But as soon as he got within range, Bio-War dual fisted Abandon in the gut, sending him to the ground away from him.

"BIO-WAR IS NOT OUT YET! NOW WE GET TO SEE THE WASTELAND SURVIVOR IN ACTION!" Finn announced, causing the audience to cheer louder.

'Who do you think will win?' Neo asked as Bio-War got back to his feet and made his way to Abandon.

"That's tough to say. Both can destroy the armor other bots have in seconds. But they both also have really durable armor. Bio-War tends to overheat fast, so Abandon can just wait him out. However, Abandon does have a lot of exposed pistons. And if Bio-War uses his gatling gun arm on those parts, Abandon is easy pickings." I answered.

Turning back to the fight, we saw Abandon try to land a right hook on Bio-War but was blocked. Bio-War then threw a right hook to the body before delivering a double jab to the body. He then quickly grabbed Abandon's head and used his right arm to tenderize the head and leave a sizeable dent. Finally, he headbutted Abandon before delivering one last double punch sending him to the floor. Thinking he won, Bio-War closed the distance and forced Abandon up. Yet, as soon as he did, Abandon pinned his arm and started landing blow after blow on Bio-War's head. Bio-War tried to escape the pin, but Abandon threw him into the corner. Dazed, Bio-War could not react fast enough to block the brutal uppercut that sent him off his feet for a second before landing on all fours. He tried to get up again but was knocked out when Abandon delivered a right hook to the face.

"A simple knockout works as well." I said as Finn got back into the ring.

"Abandon wins, and Bio-War is lost to the frozen wastelands." He announced as the bell rung while Abandon basked in the cheers before his handler made him leave the ring.

"Yet, we still have many more fights yet to come." Melanie said as she, for some reason, laid her head on my shoulder, making me blush.

"And we get to see the champion in action later. Plus, the fact that he's our date makes it even better." Miltia added with a blush as she leaned into me before laying her head on my shoulder as well. I was about to say something when I noticed the twins smirking at an annoyed Neo. Deciding it was best not to question anything, I let it

go and turned back to ring to watch as the following bots get announced. Although, it was a bit hard as the twins seemingly snuggled into me more. Whether it was to tease me or annoy Neo has yet to be determined.

11:45 P.M.

'Have any idea on who you are fighting?' Neo signed as she sat on the workbench next to the twins as I gave Noisy Boy one last look over.

"No. We're not told who we are facing off against unless it's an official tournament. Otherwise, some bots would gain an unfair advantage, which has happened in the past." I answered.

"Makes sense." Miltia commented.

"How many matches are you fighting?" Melanie asked.

"Two. One right after another." I answered as I finished examining Noisy Boy.

'What will your friends think when they find out you're a champion bot handler? They will find eventually, you know.' Neo asked.

"All hell will break loose, and I will be bombarded with so many questions." I answered as I put away my tools before someone came and took the toolbox to the ring.

"Will you be using remote or voice command for the fight?" Miltia asked.

"Both, but mainly voice command. The control is just there, so I have the list of moves I programmed into Noisy Boy." I answered while wiping my hands clean of any grease and oil. "Ready?"

"Ready." The Twins answered while Neo smirked as she opened her parasol.

"All right. Let's go make some noise." I said as I activated the headset. We then made our way over to the walkway. Ready to show Beacon Academy why Noisy Boy was able to run with the big boys.

Midnight

"Alright. Showtime." I said as I loosened my shoulders a bit.

"Do we have to do anything as we walk to the ring with you?" Melanie asked, nervous.

"We can't really dance." Miltia explained while blushing in embarrassment.

'Neither can I.' Neo added, also slightly embarrassed.

"Don't worry. Just be your beautiful selves." I told them. Turning back to face the ring, I missed the blushing faces of the twins and Neo.

"WE GOT A SPECIAL TREAT FOR YOU, BEACON ACADEMY! TONIGHT, THE MAIN EVENT FEATURES THE REAL STEEL CHAMPION HIMSELF. AND THE BOT HE BROUGHT WITH HIM RAN WITH THE BIG BOYS IN THE W.R.B. GAZE UPON THE STEEL SAMURAI, NOISY BOY!" Finn announced as the spotlight shone upon us with music playing.

Here's a something for ya

I'm a drive a little and stall ya

Don't lost your balance and fall ya

And if you're feeling chilly I'll fetch you a shawl

… ***Get ready get set (get set get set)***

Place your bet (your bet your bet)

What you get (you get you get)

Is not done yet (done yet done yet)

Get ready get set (get set get set)

Place your bet (your bet your bet)

What you get (you get you get)

Is not done yet (done yet done yet)

"Gravity Slam Uptown." I said into the headset.

Noisy Boy responded by throwing two punches before finishing the combo with a massive uppercut. Nodding to the twins and Neo, we began to make our way to the ring. All the while, Beacon students and handlers cheered us on. Getting to the ring, the ropes separated, allowing us to enter the ring. But instead of immediately going to our corner, we walked around the ring a bit with Noisy Boy's arms in the air. Smiling at the cheering audience, we moved back to our corner to let Finn announce our opponent.

"HIS CHALLENGER! HAILING FROM THE SAME PLACE AS NOISY BOY, BOW DOWN TO THE NOBLE WARRIOR. RONIN!" He announced as the spotlight shone upon a robot that looked exactly like a ronin. And as the bot moved to the ring, silence fell over the crowd as the bot's music played.

Stance still like the world on pause

Eased breath of a wind pre-storm

Firm grasp, let the blade conform

Manifest thy will, transform

Become sword unsheathed, cut raw

Become myth turned life, real lore

Meet the rage on the field of war

But never drink of the blood that pours

Look upon ruin and behold these ways

When you remove that leash then you'll end the dog days

Only by hand can you turn that page

Only keys of integrity unlock that cage

If you swim in foul play you will live among plague

If you cut a man's spirit he will bleed just the same

"Talk about a long-requested fight." I said as I exited the ring and made sure the headset was working.

"Have you fought against this bot before?" Miltia asked as Ronin made it to the ring and went over to his corner.

"No, but many people have been requesting this fight for a very long time." I answered, slightly nervous as I knew Ronin was a skilled bot.

'Don't worry. We know you can win.' Neo said with a smile, with the twins agreeing.

"Thanks." I said, smiling as I focused on the fight again.

"BEACON ACADEMY! WHO'S READY FOR SOME DESTRUCTION?" Finn shouted into the mic, causing the audience to go wild again.

"Hands up. Circle around." I ordered into the headset. Noisy Boy raised his arms up while Ronin did the same as they circled each other around the ring.

"WE GOT NOISY BOY AGAINST RONIN! RONIN AGAINST NOISY BOY! THE FIGHT OF THE SAMURAIS!" Finn shouted as the bell rang, starting the match.

"Engage." I ordered with both bots moving towards each other. But after a few steps, Ronin broke into a full-on sprint. Yet, I knew how to counter this. "Shatter Fist."

Noisy Boy raised his fist before delivering a powerful right cross to Ronin's body, sending him to the opposite side of the ring on his back. Noisy then moved forward as Ronin quickly got back to his feet. Ronin quickly closed the distance and tried to land a right cross to Noisy Boy's face. But I had Noisy block just in time before delivering a jab to the gut, hook to the face, followed by an uppercut sending Ronin back into the corner.

"That's it, Noisy. Don't let him breathe. Shock Fist. Shotgun Trinity" I ordered as Ronin tried to land a blow but kept getting blocked.

Blocking another attack, Noisy Boy countered with three powerful hooks to the face. He then followed it up by landing three left jabs at the face. Seeing that Ronin was about to try and parry an attack, I had Noisy Boy move back while keeping his hands up. However, this seemed to be what Ronin wanted as he swiftly closed the distance and landed three jabs to the chest, a right hook the dazed Noisy Boy before finishing it up with an uppercut that sent Noisy Boy to the floor.

'Damn it.' I thought as I had Noisy Boy get up only to order him to use panic shield as Ronin closed the distance again,

"Seems like the Ronin has learned a few new moves since his master died." Finn commented as Noisy Boy was forced into our corner.

"That's it. Left Block. Heavy Barrage." I ordered when I saw an opening.

Noisy Boy raised his left arm to block an incoming attack before countering with a massive right uppercut to the face. The attack sent Ronin back a few feet. He tried to close the distance again, but I had Noisy block the first attack before grabbing him and tossing Ronin back to the center of the ring, giving us room to breathe.

"But it seems the master has taught Noisy Boy some new moves as well." Finn commented as Noisy Boy closed the distance.

"Let's end this. Full Metal Feud." I ordered as Ronin got back to his feet.

Noisy Boy delivered a left uppercut followed by a right hook to the face that nearly sent Ronin to the ground. Ronin tried to land an overhead right but failed as Noisy blocked and countered with a massive right cross to the chest that caused Ronin's eyes to blink from all the damage he was taking.

"YEAH! GO, NOISY BOY!" The twins shouted as they were clearly enjoying the fight.

"Fade back. Right uppercut." I quickly ordered when I saw Ronin wind up for a lunging left cross. Luckily, he missed allowing us to counter with a right uppercut dazing him. Seeing our chance to finish this, I had Noisy perform his signature move, the Wakizashi Straight, which sent Ronin flying into the corner. Noticing that Ronin was struggling to stay upright, I gave the command to finish the fight.

"Southpaw Pain Revolution." I ordered. Noisy closed the distance before winding his left arm in a circle a few times before delivering a devastating blow to Ronin's chest that left a noticeable dent. Ronin started twitching a bit as the handle tried to keep him upright, but it was futile as Ronin fell to the ground as his systems shut down. Finn soon started the countdown, which reached ten with the bell ringing right after.

"THAT'S A WIN FOR NOISY BOY. AND RONIN HAS BEEN REUNITED WITH HIS MASTER AGAIN." Finn announced as some

people came into the ring to take Ronin away to be repaired.

"Damn, that was close." I said as I entered the ring to give Noisy Boy the repairs he needed.

"Yet, you managed to pull through in the end." Miltia commented with an impressed smirk.

"Too bad Noisy Boy here doesn't have shadow function like Atom." Melanie added.

'And that you want to keep this a secret. Otherwise, we have you put on a show for everyone to watch. We're sure your female friends would appreciate it. I know I would.' Neo said with a devious smirk that caused me to blush and roll my eyes.

"Maybe one day that can be arranged." I told them without thinking. But once I realized what I had just said, I blushed even harder.

"And we'll be looking forward to that day." Miltia said, which almost caused my brain to stop functioning. Thankfully, their laughter told me that they were only messing/teasing me again.

"Anyway. The repairs are done. Come on. Finn is about to start the next match." I said as I put away my tools before exiting the ring. And as soon as I did, Finn came back into the ring.

"YOU THINK THE NIGHT IS OVER? WE GOT A DOUBLE SPECIAL FEATURE FOR YOU! RONIN FAILED TO DEFEAT THE STEEL SAMURAI! BUT NOW, HE FACES OF AGAINST A HIGHER RANK. WELCOME TO THE RING, THE ORIGINAL SAMURAI. SHOGUN!" He announced as the spotlight moved over to show a bot that had a similar appearance to a samurai. But the head of the bot resembled that of a shogun's helmet instead of a samurai. And as he made his way to the ring, music played the seemed to drive home that he is a shogun.

I choose death before dishonor

I'd rather die than live down on my knees

Bury me like a soldier, with my dignity!

You imitate the ostracized, put your head beneath the sand

Your cup it runneth over, must be rough to live so grand

You reap what you sew, you pay what you owe unless you bathe yourself in greed

You rob and you take, your world is fake

There's no honor amongst the thieves

I choose death before dishonor

I'd rather die than live down on my knees

Bury me like a soldier, with my dignity!

"Wow, I'm surprised that bot is still standing." Miltia commented when she saw the rust on Shogun and some parts that look obsolete.

"That's because Shogun is a generation one bot. But don't let that fool you. Atom was one of the first G2 bots ever made, yet he is still as strong and durable as ever." I explained while adjusting the headset. Although, it was a bit difficult considering that my sweater covered my head completely.

"NOW, LET'S SEE IF NOISY BOY IS READY TO TAKE THE RANK OF SHOGUN. OR CAN THE FIRST SAMURAI RETAIN HIS RANK?" Finn commented as the bell rang.

"Engage." I ordered with Noisy raising his hands before moving towards the center of the ring.

But as soon as they were in arms reach of each other, Shogun immediately jumped up and tried to land an overhead strike. Yet the strike missed as I had Noisy sidestep to the side before retaliating with two overhead strikes of his own. Shogun quickly recovered and delivered an uppercut to Noisy that caused him to stumble back a bit. Recovering from the attack, I had Noisy duck under a cross from Shoun and tried to counter but was blocked and struck in the face.

"You better try much harder Noisy Boy as this old dog has been around a while." Finn commented as the crown started to cheer Noisy Boy's name.

"Seems like your bot certainly is a crowd favorite." Miltia commented, but I ignored her as I had to focus on the fight. It seems that despite having rust on him and being a G1 bot, he is still swift and agile.

"Backstep. Fade Back. Shatter Punch." I said, trying to create some space for Noisy Boy to breathe.

But that was proving a challenge as Shogun kept closing the distance quickly. Luckily, after Noisy evaded a lunging strike, I realized Shogun's weakness. Every time he misses an attack, he's left wide open to a counter-attack. And if we rush towards him when he rushes towards us, he's thrown off balance leaving him vulnerable to any heavy blow.

"Come on. Show him why you're the champion." Miltia suddenly told me. Not liking that Noisy Boy could potentially lose the fight.

"Watch this then." I said before turning back to the fight.

Seeing Shogun charging in for another attack, I had Noisy charge forward as well. This surprised Shogun and caused him to stumble into the uppercut Noisy sent to his stomach. Not wasting a second, I then had Noisy deliver another top salvo to Shogun, sending him to the floor. Stepping back, Shogun regained his footing before trying to land a right hook. Yet his attack missed when I had Noisy backstep and follow it up with an uppercut and hook to the head. Seeing

Shogun stumble back from the blows, I had Noisy deliver a Scimitar Right attack which sent Shogun back to his corner. It was then that age seemed to finally catch up to Shogun as he struggled to stay upright with his eyes blinking. However, despite this, Shogun tried to lunge at Noisy one last time.

"Lean right. Shock Fist. Shotgun Trinity. Shatter Punch." I ordered when I saw this.

Noisy leaned right just in time to avoid the attack. He then capitalized on the miss by delivering two crosses to the face followed by three left jabs to the face as well and finally a powerful right cross to the chest. The final attack sent Shogun to the floor and offline. The countdown soon started and eventually reached ten which declared us the winner of the fight.

"IT SEEMS THE SHOGUN CAN FINALLY RETIRE AS A WORTHY SUCCESSOR HAS BEEN FOUND IN THE STEEL SAMURAI!" Finn announced as he got back into the ring as others came in to take Shogun away.

"NOISY BOY! NOISY BOY!" The audience cheered as the tournament finished. Smiling, I got into the ring and took Noisy back to the area to fix him as the twins and Neo followed us.

Half an hour Later

"What a way to end a night." Melanie said, fighting through a yawn.

"You said it. Plus, I can safely say this was the best date I ever had." Miltia agreed, also fighting through a yawn. "How about you, Neo?"

'Definitely the best.' She signed with a smirk.

"Okay, you guys can stop saying this was a date. I know you three are only teasing me." I said, getting slightly annoyed. Only to be shocked by what Miltia said next.

"Who said we were teasing?" She asked with a devious smirk.

"What?" I asked, confused. Only to become even more confused when the twins and Neo let out a sigh while rolling their eyes.

'You really are a dense idiot.' Neo signed before leaning in and kissing me on the lips. I was frozen solid in shock that I could not even respond. ***'But you're our idiot.'***

"What-" I tried to get out but was cut off when Miltia kissed me on the lips as well. After a few minutes, she moved back, breaking the kiss. But I was not even given a second to catch my breath as Melanie quickly kissed me as well. After she let go, a silence fell over us as I didn't know what to say. Luckily, the silence was broken by Miltia.

"So, what now?" She asked.

"What?" I asked as my brain was still rebooting.

"The tournament is over. Are you going back to your dorms or your place?" Melanie asked.

"Seeing that it's the weekend and that I still needed to put Noisy Boy back so the others wouldn't find him, I'd say my place." I answered.

"Can we go back with you?" Melanie asked with a smirk.

"Even if I say no. You three would still come anyway." I answered with a smile.

'You already know us so well.' Neo signed with a smirk as we made our way to the transport that would take Noisy Boy back to Tallett's gym. Yet, my mind kept drifting back to what Neo said about me being their dense idiot. But especially, the kiss at the end.

Note:

One of Noisy Boy's nickname is the Steel Samurai.

The Kanji (Hopefully that is the correct term) on Noisy Boy actually translates to "Ultra Evil Man,"

Song are Here's a Little Something for Ya by Beastie Boys. Teachings of a Ronin by Zack Hemsey. Death Before Dishonor by Five Finger Death Punch.

Bots that were used are from the Real Steel wiki. Apologies though if I accidentally used a fan-made bot and not an official one as the Real Steel wiki is a bit of a mess.

Well, the pairing seems to be Jaune, the twins and Neo.

Lastly, so Jaune's secret will be revealed in a tournament during a live broadcast. But need to know what kind of tournament. The underworld or the W.R.B.

Chapter 6

Real Steel: Remnant League

Chap 6

Three Months Later

"WATCH IT!" I shouted as I dove to the ground.

"SORRY!" Ruby and Yang shouted as they struggled to get their bot under control. Their handling of their bot was so bad that it almost appeared to be having a system crash.

"I got it." Weiss said as she grabbed the remote from their hands and powered down their bot.

"Thanks, Wiess." I said as I stood back up and dusted myself off.

"Were you two even paying attention to what our instructors said?" Blake asked, annoyed at nearly having her book destroyed.

"Not really." They answered sheepishly.

Groaning, I walked back to my team that seemed to be fairing only slightly better than Team Rwby. Only to nearly smack my forehead in disbelief when I saw that they somehow managed to get their bot to be on its back. It has been three months since the tournament Ozpin hosted here at Beacon. And three months since, I somehow became the boyfriend of three beautiful girls simultaneously. Not to mention, they are also technically criminals, but that never bothered me. But what did bother me, only slightly though, was how they constantly teased me almost all the damn time. Although, I did get a chuckle every time they scare some other innocent girl. I honestly didn't expect them to be the possessive or jealous types.

But that didn't mean that these past months were only good times. Classes were hell, and the missing assignments I had yet to do were piling up. Luckily, Pyrrha, Weiss, and surprisingly, Blake decided to help me out. Yet, that did not mean any of them were happy with me, mainly because I disappeared on them again. But after a long, and I mean *long* lecture from Wiess and Pyrrha, and the promise of buying them all pizza, they forgave me. However, a new problem came precisely two weeks after the tournament. And that was that their bots had finally arrived. Suffice to say; they were having immense trouble piloting them.

"I got it." I told them as I took the remote from Pyrrha and easily got the bot back on its feet.

"Is it alright?" Pyrrha asked, nervous that she might have accidentally damaged it.

"I would say so." Nora answered as she examined the bot.

"How do you know how to control the bots so easily, Jaune?" Ren asked, curious.

"My older sister used to be a robotics and dust engineer before she changed jobs. She used to let me pilot some of the robots she created, which had a similar control scheme to this." I lied as I went over and placed the control on the nearby table.

"What happened to her?" Nora asked as she tried to grab the remote, only for Ren to stop her.

"She didn't like the company she was working for and quit. Now she's an accountant." I answered.

"Seems a bit of a drastic change in professions, wouldn't you say?" Weiss asked as she and the rest of her team came over to us.

"A bit, but she was always good with numbers and even did the family's financing since she was in high school." I explained. But

then, I felt my scroll vibrate. "One moment."

"Who is it, Jaune?" Pyrrha asked.

"Some kind of secret girlfriend, lover boy?" Yang teased, not knowing that she was mostly correct.

"Uh, nope. Not at all." I answered as I tried not to blush at the message sent to me by the twins and Neo, which was just another one of their attempts to make me become a stuttering mess.

"Then let us see." Yang said as she moved behind me and tried to peer over my shoulder to see the message. Luckily, just as she did so, another message blocked the message from the twins and Neo.

'Thank, Oum.' I thought when I noticed the message was from Finn. "Sorry, I have to take this." I said as I walked away from them before opening the message.

'Hey, Jaune. You ready for the W.R.B.?' The message read.

'You know it. Atom and me and ready to rumble and defend the title.' I replied.

'You better bring your A-game. While I won't give away who you'll be facing, I will say the handler is out for revenge. Either way, see you tomorrow.' Finn messaged back. But it was then that I realized something.

"Is everything all right, Jaune?" Pyrrha asked, worried when she saw me tense up.

And that was the fact that my team was not willing to let me on a bullhead without one of them with me.

'Come on, think.' I thought, trying to come up with a reasonable excuse so I could leave later. Fortunately, one quickly came to mind. "Yes, I just received some news about back home."

"Has something gone wrong?" Ren asked.

"Nothing bad, but I need to head back home." I answered.

"Why?" Yang asked, suspicious.

"Well, my family is technically the leaders of my hometown. And some political matter has come up the requires everyone's input." I lied.

"I can see why that would require your immediate attention." Wiess said with a nod.

"What time do you have to leave?" Blake asked. But before I could answer, my scroll vibrated again. This time alerting me to another message sent to me from the twins and Neo. And after reading it, I already knew what time I would be leaving.

"Right now, actually." I answered.

"Doesn't Ozpin need to know this?" Ruby asked.

"He doesn't need to know as it's Friday, and I'll be back by Sunday afternoon." I answered.

"Well, okay. Be safe then, Jaune." Pyrrha told me with a smile.

"Don't worry. Everything will be fine." I assured her.

Turning around, I went back inside the Academy and headed towards our dorm. Getting there, I grabbed my duffel bag and started putting everything I needed for the weekend. After about ten minutes and double-checking to make sure I had everything, I grabbed my hoodie and exited the dorm. Smiling, I looked over the hoodie that the twins and Neo gave me last month. Putting it on and then slinging the duffle bag over my shoulder, I made my way through the halls and eventually back outside. Waving to my friends one last time and slightly wincing when they somehow got the bot on the ground again. Shaking my head, I made my way over to the airstrip and

boarded the nearest bullhead after getting a ticket. Finding an empty seat, I sat down and tried to relax and take a nap. Only for my eyes to snap open when I remembered that I hadn't taken my motion sickness pills yet. Reaching into the bag, I quickly grabbed them and took two just as the bullhead started to ascend.

'I wonder who Atom and I'll be facing tomorrow?' I thought as I closed my eyes.

One Hour Later

'Okay. Time to get Atom and then head over to Junior's bar.' I thought as I woke up from my nap when the bullhead landed. Stretching, I waited for everyone else to get off before getting off myself. Once off, I breathed the fresh air of Vale before starting to make my way to the garage. However, as soon as I exited the airstrip, I felt a sudden weight come upon my back. Yet, I instantly knew who it was.

"Hey, Neo." I said with a smile.

'Hey, cutie.' She signed with one hand.

"Not getting off, are you?" I asked her.

Her only response was to hug me tighter and nuzzle me. Rolling my eyes, I grabbed her legs to stabilize her and resumed making my way towards the garage. Getting there, I showed the guy my I.D. so he'd let us in. After that, I made my way to the truck, all the while trying to keep my head out of the gutter from how Neo was rubbing against my back. Whether it was to tease me, get a rise, or something else remained to be seen. Once at the truck, and after getting a smirking Neo off my back, I turned on the truck and proceeded to drive out of the garage towards Junior's bar.

"Excited for the W.R.B. tournament?" I asked Neo as we continued towards Junior's bar.

'You know it. Which bot are you going to use?' She asked.

"I'm going to be using Atom as our match is a title defense match." I answered.

'Do you know who you'll be facing?' She asked.

"All Finn told me was that he's out for revenge, which in all honestly, could be anyone." I answered as we finally reached the bar. And waiting for us, a bit impatiently though, were the twins.

"Took you both long enough." They said simultaneously as they got in the truck. All the while glaring at Neo, who hasn't stopped hugging me since we got in the truck. "Anyway, when's the tournament?"

"Tomorrow morning. However, Atom's match won't be until late afternoon as there are more matches than usual." I answered as I pulled out of the parking spot and started to make our way towards Tallet's gym.

"What time exactly do we have to be there?" Miltia asked.

"And how many matches are there?" Melanie added.

"Normally, there are about eight fights, but there will be twenty fights this time. The largest the W.R.B. ever held. As for what time we have to be there, we have to be there at around six." I answered.

'Wow. So, lots of carnage then.' Neo said, excited.

"But since we don't have to get up early, we can stay in and cuddle with our boyfriend." Miltia said with a seductive smirk that turned into a pout when I only rolled my eyes at her.

One Hour Later

"Okay, we're here." I said as I turned off the truck after parking it in the side alleyway. Turning to the twins and Neo, I smiled when I noticed they had fallen asleep.

'Never thought I would ever be in a relationship, let alone with the gorgeous ladies.' I thought as I gently shook them awake.

'Are we here?' Neo asked as she let out a silent yawn.

"We just arrived." I answered as I opened the door and exited the truck, followed by the others. Locking the truck, we entered the gym and turned on the lights. However, something quickly caught the eyes of the twins and Neo.

"Where are your other bots?" Melanie asked, looking around when she didn't see the boxes I kept the bots in when I was not using them.

"They are already at the tournament. I currently only have Atom in the back of the truck." I answered before remembering something. "Which reminds me. I got you three something."

'What is it?' Neo asked.

"Your bots have finally arrived." I answered as I led them to where I had stored it.

"REALLY!" They shouted excitedly.

"Yes. Although, I was unable to get top-of-the-line or brand-new bots as there wasn't much selection at the time." I told them as I showed them the three storage boxes. Walking over to the boxes, I began to unfasten the security belts.

"That's alright. We weren't exactly expecting top-of-the-line bots." Melanie told me.

"We're just glad you got us our own bots." Miltia added before walking up to me and kissing me on the cheek.

'Anyway. Open it up so we can see our bots.' Neo said, barely able to contain her excitement. Chuckling, I unfastened the last of the belts and proceeded to open the boxes.

"Ladies. Here are your very own bots." I said as I removed the covers to reveal their bots. "Meet Scarlette, Violette, and D.J. Electrix."

"COOL!" They said in awe at their new bots.

"Wait, which one is which?" Melanie asked.

"Neo. You get D.J. Electrix." I told her while pointing to the bot in the center with a blue and silver paint job that looked like she was wearing headphones.

'Thanks.' She said as she walked over to her bot.

"Scarlette is yours, Miltia." I said while pointing to the bot with the orange and white color scheme with a head that resembles a helmet.

"Awesome." She said as she went over to her bot.

"And Melanie, Violette is yours." I said while pointing to the last bot with a purple and light blue color scheme that looked similar to the previous bot. But what separated them was that Violette had spikes on her collar and even had *hair* .

"You are the best boyfriend ever." She said as she kissed me on the lips before heading over to her bot. But before I could respond or say anything, both Miltia and Neo walked over and did the same.

"Wow." I said as my brain tried to reboot, still not used to having them kiss me on the lips.

"When generation are these bots?" Miltia asked.

"How come we have never seen them before?" Melanie added.

'And why do they look so human-like?' Neo also asked. Shaking my head to focus, I walked over to them and began to explain.

"They are all Generation 3. The very beginning of Generation 3, to be exact which was around the time when the handlers started to get away from having the bots resemble humans and faunus. Plus, from what I can recall, the handlers retired these bots when they got stronger bots shortly after creating these bots." I answered.

'Can you teach us how to pilot them?' Neo asked.

"Another time. I'm going to make us some dinner, and then I'm heading to bed as there are still some things I need to do tomorrow." I answered.

"Can we help?" Miltia asked with a smirk.

"Of course." I answered as we headed into the kitchen to make dinner, already mentally preparing myself for all the teasing that was about to come my way.

Next-Day Eight A.M.

'All right, time to get-' I thought as I woke up.

However, I became confused when I felt a sudden weight on my chest and something grabbing my arms. Cracking my eyes open, I looked down and saw Neo on my chest, still asleep while Miltia was on my right, cuddling next to me while Melanie was doing the same on my left. Yet, instead of waking them up and possibly facing their wrath, I decided to close my eyes and go back to sleep. After all, despite this only starting a month after they told me I was their boyfriend, we rarely got to do this. So, I wanted to enjoy this a bit more as we didn't need to be at the W.R.B. until around six.

'Plus, this is nice.' I thought as I felt the girls snuggle into me a bit more. Smiling, I closed my eyes and fell back asleep.

Four P.M.

"Where is the W.R.B. tournament located?" Miltia asked as she ate one of the bacon-wrapped jalapeños that I had made for us earlier.

"It's located in the center of Downtown Vale, just outside the entertainment district." I answered.

'Will we be in the stands or with you?' Neo asked.

"No. You three will be with me ringside." I answered.

After that, it was a mostly silent drive towards the tournament. With only the occasional chatter between us breaking the silence. Although I wondered if I should have told my friends back at Beacon about the tournament, I figured it would have caused too much trouble and too many questions. However, I wasn't able to dwell on it too much as Neo put a jalapeño in my mouth, causing me to blush a bit and the twins to laugh. Shaking my head, I focused back on the road while ignoring the twins and Neo. After about another hour, we finally arrived at the W.R.B. Heading around back, we parked in the area reserved for handlers and their bots.

Exiting the truck, we went around to the back of the truck and got Atom. After activating him and closing and locking the truck, we headed towards the entrance. Showing my I.D. to the guard, he allowed us to enter and told us the assigned room. Thanking him, we made our way there to prepare for the coming fight. Although, first, we had to get through the crowd that formed around us in less than a minute. Luckily, some guards quickly came to help keep the people at bay until we made it to our room.

"Is it always like this when you come to fights?" Miltia asked, pointing to the crowd that's standing outside the room.

"Only at W.R.B. tournaments. However, it's a lot bigger than usual. But that can be attributed to Real Steal being the sport of Remnant now." I answered as I began to inspect Atom.

"How long before the fight?" Melanie asked, bored of waiting already.

"It's currently five-thirty, so we have another hour before we have to head down to the ring." I answered.

'Will this tournament be broadcasted? And if so, won't your teammates be watching it and discover that you're the champion?' Neo asked.

"Yes, but only on certain channels that only handlers and a select few others know about, so the chance of that happening is unlikely." I answered.

"Speaking of select few, how many bots have shadow function like Atom?" Miltia asked, curious.

"In the history of Real Steel, there have been twelve bots that had shadow function. Unfortunately, Atom is the only bot left that has that function, as all the others have been scrapped or destroyed." I answered.

"Do you know who created Atom or the shadow function?" Melanie asked.

"Actually, yes, I do know who created him. About a year after I discovered Atom, I met the guy." I answered as I finished examining Atom and started putting away my tools.

'Now that you're done with Atom, what should we do until your match?' Neo asked. However, before I could answer, we heard someone knocking on the door. Walking over, I opened the door and was surprised to see Finn and Archie.

"Hey, Finn. Archie. Good to see you both." I said as I let them in before closing the door.

"Likewise." They said as they walked over to where Atom was.

"You two need something or just dropping by?" I asked.

"A little bit of both, to be honest. Came to say good luck in the match as you will be needing it." Archie answered.

"Who will he be facing?" Miltia asked, getting their attention.

"We can't say until the match begins." Finn answered, causing them to glare at him.

"Speaking of matches, are there any future non-official above-ground or minor league matches coming up?" I asked.

"A couple of them are coming up. Why?" Archie asked, curious

"I just got them their own bots." I answered while pointing to Neo and the Twins.

"Awesome, always great to see more contenders. What bots did you give them?" Archie asked.

"D.J. Electrix, Violette, and Scarlette." I answered.

"Wow, I haven't heard those names in a while. But that narrows down available matches considerably." Finn told us.

"You're definitely going to need to upgrade them before they fight; otherwise, they won't last long even if you are piloting them." Archie told us.

"I should have thought of that. I'll have to contact Atom's creator to see if he can lend a hand." I said after slapping my forehead.

"Well, we got to get going. It was nice seeing you again." Finn said as he and Archie headed towards the door.

"Good luck." Archie said as he and Finn exited the room and closed the door behind them.

'Are you actually going to have Atom's creator upgrade our bots?' Neo asked.

"After this match, remind me, and I'll give him a call." I answered, causing them to smile.

"Well, since we still have some time before the match, can you start teaching us how to pilot our bots with Atom?" Melanie asked with a smirk, with Neo and Miltia following suit. Rolling my eyes, I let out a chuckle and began to show them the basics of how to control their bots.

One Hour Later

"All right, Vince. The time has come." One of the announcers said to her partner.

'Showtime.' I thought as I rolled my arms a bit as Atom and I waited in the dark to be announced.

"It sure has, Catira. Not only is this a championship title defense match, but it's also a revenge match. A David vs. Goliath part 2 match, you could say. A G2 bot with a rare but outdated feature and his handler facing off against a new mysterious bot with a brand-new bot with its own unique never before seen feature." Vince agreed.

'Still could be anyone.' I thought as my mind raced with all the possibilities on who Atom and I could be facing.

"But enough with the introductions. This crowd is getting impatient, and so am I. Let's get this match underway and introduce our fighters." Catira announced.

'All right. Finally.' I thought, getting tired from standing here in the dark. Looking towards the corner of the ring, I saw the Twins and Neo smiling at me. Yet, I could tell that they were also getting impatient.

"Let's take a look at the bots that the handler has had over the years. Starting with his first bot, AMBUSH!" Vince announced. Looking to my right, I saw a spotlight come over my first bot, Ambush.

"Next came NOISY BOY!" Catira announced as a spotlight shone upon Noisy Boy to my left.

"And while this wasn't the next bot he owned, this bot was the one he challenged in his first W.R.B. tournament, TWIN CITIES!" Vince announced as Twin Cities was revealed.

"This next bot presented the most challenging match he ever fought; however, that could change after tonight. ZEUS!" Catira announced as a spotlight came over Zeus, who raised his arms in response.

"But now, the bot that will be fighting in today's main event. The People's Champion, ATOM!" Vince and Catira announced as the final spotlight came over us with music playing.

Give me that, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh

Give me that, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh

Just give it a go go, give it a go, give it a go go

Just give it a go go, give it a go, give it a go go

Give me that, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh

Give me that, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh

Just give it a go go, give it a go, give it a go go

Just give it a go go, give it a go, give it a go go

Watch me turn it on

Throwing a right hook followed by a left cross and finishing it up with a right uppercut, we began to make our way towards the ring. As we made our way there, Atom and I danced to the beat of the song as the crowd went wild. Seeing that everyone was clapping alongside us, we switched it up to clap with them. Getting to the ring, we entered and walked over to our corner. Moving behind Atom, I

switched him from Shadow Mode back to operating him remotely. Exiting the ring, I grabbed the headset and put it on my head before activating it.

"I'm still curious as to who you are facing." Miltia commented.

"Either way, it will be a good fight." Melanie added with a smirk.

'Good luck.' Neo said while flashing me a smile. But as soon as she said this, the lights went out.

"Now, here comes Atom's opponent brought to you by Tak Mashido." Vince announced.

'This can't be good.' I thought, worried as Tak Mashido is considered a master bot builder for a good reason.

'The Unholy Annihilator. The Beast. Get ready to face his wrath. ASURA!' The announcers said in a bone-chilling voice. A spotlight came on the other side of the room to reveal Tak Mashido and his bot. The bot in question has a black and golden paint job, four arms, a head that resembled a panther, and large red eyes. As Asura made his way to the ring, his red eyes seemed to lock on Atom and me as the music began to play.

It is the end of all hope

To lose the child, the faith

To end all the innocence

To be someone like me

This is the birth of all hope

To have what I once had

This life unforgiven

It will end with birth

"We have never seen that bot before. Have you?" The twins asked, slightly nervous at the imposing figure of Asura as it jumped over the ropes of the ring.

'That bot looks like it can demolish Zeus.' Neo commented, taking a step back when Asura let out a roar.

"I haven't even heard of this bot before. But considering that Tak Mashido built it, it has to be tough as hell with a unique feature like Zeus. But I have a feeling that Tak Mashido added another special feature." I answered as I tried to calm myself down. Soon a third announcer came to the ring with the referee right behind him.

"Ladies and gentlemen. From downtown Vale. LET'S GET READY FOR REAL STEEL!" The announcer said before ducking out of the ring.

"FIGHTER READY?" The ref shouted towards us.

"Arms up." I said into the headset, causing Atom to raise both his arms.

"FIGHTER READY?" The ref shouted towards Tak Mashido and his bot.

" " Tak shouted with Asura raising only two of his four arms.

"FIGHTERS READY! FIGHT!" The ref shouted before diving out of the ring.

"Engage!" I ordered into the headset.

Atom and Asura moved towards each other. Knowing what was about to happen, I quickly had Atom fade back to dodge the incoming attack. Only for him to get sent to the floor when Asura followed up his attack with a right uppercut from his second right arm. Shouting into the headset, I managed to get Atom back to his

feet as the ref was about to get into the ring. Luckily, it seemed the hit only sent him to the floor and didn't damage him too much. However, had I not managed to have Atom duck in time, the next attack from Asura would have.

Having Atom back up, we waited for Asura to make the next attack which didn't take long. And as soon as Asura was within range, I had Atom dash in and deliver three quick jabs to the body. This stunned Asura as he was not expecting this, which allowed Atom to deliver an uppercut that sent him stumbling back. Not wanting him to breathe, I had Atom move forward and continue the assault.

'Seems like Asura suffers from the weakness as Twin Cities.' I thought as I had Atom quickly dodge and step back to avoid the hook and cross Asura sent his way. Having Atom back away, we taunted Asura to get in close to where we could use this to our advantage. But then, to everyone's surprise and shock, Asura did something we had never seen before. And that was turning into an exact look-alike of Atom.

"It seems like Atom, and his handler have never seen Asura's special feature before." Catira commented.

"And that special feature being that Asura can mimic the appearance and fighting style of any bot he faces against in the ring." Vince added.

"MOVE ATOM! MOVE!" I shouted as Asura quickly closed the distance.

Luckily, Atom managed to move out of the way just in time to avoid what would have been a devastating uppercut. Unsure of what to do, I had Atom keep circling Asura. But to our surprise, Asura copied our movements precisely. Knowing that nothing was going to get done, I had Atom engage with Asura doing the same. And this was where everything started going wrong. Despite now looking like Atom, Asura still had his original strength and use of his two other arms. Not to mention, the announcers were correct as it seemed that Asura

had already copied our entire fighting style. Every strike or blow we tried to land was perfectly countered. And the few times that we managed to land a blow a hard attack on him, he shrugged it off like it was nothing.

"DUCK! SPIN!" I shouted into the headset to keep Atom moving to avoid getting hit by Asura while I tried to find a way to beat him. However, as soon as Atom spun to avoid a left cross, Asura grabbed his head and delivered a brutal uppercut that sent him to the floor.

"COME ON! GET HIM BACK ON HIS FEET!" The twins shouted as the referee came back into the ring and started the countdown.

"GET UP, ATOM! I KNOW YOU CAN STILL FIGHT!" I shouted towards him. And after the seventh count from the referee, Atom got back on his feet, surprising Tak Mashido.

"HE'S GOOD!" The referee shouted before exiting the ring.

"Let's try this again." I said as I had Atom engage Asura again. But as soon as they closed the distance, the bell rang, signifying the end of the round.

"Looks like with Atom's previous bout with Zeus, we will have a second round." Vince announced, sounding shocked.

"Come on. Help me with this." I told the Twins and Neo as we entered the ring with my tools after having Atom return to his corner.

"I'm not sure what we can do to help." Miltia said, unsure.

"Just hand me the tools so I can repair Atom as quickly as possible as we don't have a lot of time." I explained.

"How are you going to beat that thing?" Melanie asked.

"I'm not sure." I answered as this was entirely new for me.

"Neo is saying that maybe you should switch to shadow mode as that could help with Atom being faster in that mode." Miltia translated.

"Maybe. But while that can make Atom quicker, there is still the fact that Asura can copy our entire fighting style." I reminded them as I finished all the essential repairs and started to put away my tools.

'What if you quickly change fighting styles? Maybe use the fighting styles of your teammates at Beacon as soon as he starts to catch on to the new style of fighting you're using?' Neo suggested.

"Plus, while I'm not sure this could help, I did notice that despite looking like Atom, Asura's shadow remained the same. Maybe that could give you the advantage you need?" Melanie added.

"That could work. Alright. I'll switch Atom to shadow mode." I relented as I moved to the back and swapped him back to shadow mode. Once done, we exited the ring, with the referee coming back in to start the second round.

"FIGHTERS READY! FIGHT!" He shouted before exiting the ring again.

Raising my arms with Atom doing the same, I had him move forward towards Asura. However, as they reached each other, I had Atom move closer and attack the body instead of fading back to avoid an attack like usual. Asura then pushed Atom back and tried to uppercut him. However, considering Melanie's advice, I looked down to the ground and noticed that Asura's shadow showed him preparing to follow up the attack with a backhand attack. Stepping back and ducking, we avoided the attacks and were able to counter with an uppercut of our own, followed by a jab to the chest. But it was then that I noticed something that could benefit us greatly. Every time we landed a *light* punch against him, Asura stumbled back a lot.

Smirking, I had Atom close the distance again. Asura tried to fade our next attack, as how we would have done, but it went wrong for him as it allowed us to perform a left hook to his face. He stumbled back slightly but could not recover in time as we quickly followed up with two right jabs to the head. Asura tried to counter the third jab he thought was coming but was surprised when we instead delivered an uppercut. Looking towards the ground again, I saw that Asura was preparing to use all his arms to attack Atom. Not wasting a second, I had Atom deliver a massive uppercut to the body that had lifted Asura off his feet for a brief second. But as soon as he landed back on the ground, I had Atom deliver a left hook followed by a right uppercut that sent Asura into the corner.

Yet, to our surprise, as soon as Atom reached Asura, Tak Mashido took manual control over Asura as a last desperate attempt to avoid losing again. He had Asura pin Atom's arm and switch positions. But this proved fruitless as I managed to have Atom escape his grip and duck under his next attack and counter with a jumping right cross to the face. And since Tak Mashido was controlling Asura, he was unable to copy our fighting style, which allowed us more freedom in our fighting style.

Moving around to the other side of the ring, I continued the fight with Atom, now pinning both right arms of Asura and using his left throw punch and punch to the face. After the fifth strike, Asura managed to get free, only to be sent back to the corner again after we started delivering powerful right hooks to his face. Once in the corner, I had Atom start throwing lunging right cross to Asura again and again. After the sixth strike, I had Atom step back. Seeing that Asura was steaming and twitching, I decided to finish this fight. Moving closer, I had Atom perform a double jump uppercut to the head. However, due to the damage he had already sustained, the attack sent Asura's head into the stands, with the body falling back to the ground instead of simply falling down. The crowd was silent as they took everything in, but after a moment, everyone began cheering at the fight they had just witnessed as the bell rang.

"Now that is what we call a title defense match. It seems like Atom is still the People's Champion." Catira announced, sounding shocked.

"But it seems Tak Mashido isn't happy as I just received word that he's storming out of the building already." Vince added.

'Oh, thank Oum. That was a close match.' I thought as I tried to catch my breath.

"THAT WAS AWESOME!" The twins shouted behind me, which slightly scared me.

'You okay?' Neo asked, walking up to me.

"Yeah. I just need to catch my breath." I answered. Hearing lots of footsteps rushing towards us, we looked around and saw everyone running towards us. Including the announcers ready to declare to everyone that Atom and I are still the champions. "Come on. Let's get this over."

Midnight

"How's Atom looking?" Melanie asked as they watched me repair Atom. We were currently back in the room from earlier. Neo and the Twins were having some snacks while I worked on Atom.

"Not so good. The last few attacks from Asura damaged his core. While nothing too serious, it will cause problems down the road if I don't get it fixed soon. But that means going back to his creator." I answered as I put away my tools.

"Speaking of which, what's going to happen to that bot? I think I heard one of the announcers say that his handler stormed out of the building already." Miltia asked.

"Technically, it's still his, so they will repair Asura and put him in storage. But if Tak doesn't come back for him in the next couple of days, they'll most likely scrap him." I answered.

'But that was a great fight either way. Although, I'm ready to head back to the gym to get some sleep.' Neo said while letting out a silent yawn.

"Us too." The twins added as they also let out a yawn.

"Well, I finished repairing Atom, so-" I began but stopped when we heard knocking on the door. Walking over, I opened the door and was surprised to find Blake standing there. "Blake?"

"Hello, Arc." She said with a smirk.

"You know her?" The twins asked while glaring at Blake.

"She's a... friend from Beacon. We don't really talk that much, though." I explained before turning back to Blake. "So, how long have you known?"

"Around the time you took Atom here to Crash Palace. But I only learned about you being the champion about a month after the councils made Real Steel the sport of Remnant." She answered.

'Did you keep this a secret?' Neo signed while moving to stand next to me. Luckily, it seemed that Blake understood her.

"I haven't told anyone else about Jaune being the handler of champion bots or the fact that he is dating three technically criminal girls at the same time." She answered.

"Thanks, Blake." I said after letting out a sigh of relief.

"But I have a feeling you want something in return." Miltia said with a growl as she grabbed onto my arm, which caused me to let out a chuckle.

"Actually, no." Blake answered with a roll of her eyes yet smiled at the same. But then her expression changed to one of mild concern. "I actually came to warn you about our teammates and friends from Beacon."

"What do you mean?" I asked, feeling dread creep down my spine.

"I overheard you earlier say that the tournament was broadcasted on specific channels. But Winter and Weiss knew about this tournament and managed to locate the signal so they could watch it together along with the rest of our teammates." She explained. Feeling my scroll vibrate, I took it out and saw that my team and friends were all calling me at the same time. All I could think of was one thing.

"Crap."

Notes:

Obsidian Nova Arc: That's a good idea. Thanks, I'll try and incorporate it into the next chapters.

DarkraizerGx1: I honestly forgot about the Robot Combat League. But that's also a good idea. I'll try and incorporate it into the later chapters. Thanks.

Chapter 7

Real Steel: Remnant League

Chap 7

"Well, aren't you going to answer it?" Melanie asked with a smirk.

"Um-" I began, unsure how to answer and whether or not I should answer.

"Here." Blake suddenly said, passing earplugs to Neo, Miltia, and Melanie. "You're going to need it."

'Why?' Neo asked, curious, yet they each put them in all the same.

"You'll see in a moment." Blake said with a smirk before turning back to me. "Well, Jaune. Aren't you going to answer it?"

"Fine." I said with a sigh as I swiped on my scroll to answer the call from my teammates. "Hello?"

"JAUNE!" All our teammates shouted at once.

"Yes?" I asked, nervous while also ignoring the snickering coming from the others.

"DON'T YES US JAUNE! WE HAVE BEEN WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU WHEN WE COULDN'T FIND YOU!" Pyrrha shouted, taking the screen so I would only see her.

"Calm down, cereal girl. I bet Jaune can explain everything." Yang said as she took the scroll from Pyrrha. For a brief moment, I felt some relief fill me. However, that was quickly replaced with fear when I noticed that Yang's eyes were now blood red. "LIKE WHEN HE WAS GOING TO TELL US THAT WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS WITH THE REAL STEEL CHAMPION ALL ALONG!?"

"I was going-" I began but was cut off by Weiss.

"Don't even try to lie, Arc. We all know for a fact that had this sport not become the official sport of Remnant, you would have gone through all four years of Beacon and *NOT* tell us." She stated, pissed.

"Um-" I stuttered as I knew that was true.

"Why didn't you tell us?" Ruby asked with puppy dog eyes. "I thought we were your friends? You could have at least told me!"

"Well-" I began, but Nora cut me off.

"Yeah, fearless leader." She added, pouting. "Or should we call you our selfish leader?"

"Nora." Ren chided before turning to me. "You being the Real Steel champion does explain how you could pilot the bots with ease. But is it true about what you told us about your sister?"

"Yes. For the most part." I answered.

"For the most part?" Weiss asked through narrow eyes.

"The only part I lied about was that she changed to an accountant due to her hating her job. She loved it but had to change due to her needing to move to another part of Vale." I explained.

"DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT!" Pyrrha shouted, snapping the others back to focus as she took the scroll back. "JAUNE! WHAT YOU DID WAS DANGEROUS! YOU COULD HAVE GOTTEN HURT OR WORSE!"

'I doubt that.' I thought with a shiver going down my spine.

While I never told my team or friends, I was attacked twice in the past month. The first time was by some common thugs, while the second time was by some Shade Academy students. Even though

Pyrrha and occasionally Nora had been training me to fight better, I knew I was outmatched. However, I didn't need to pull out Crocea Mors as the Twins and Neo took care of the problem. Although, I did feel slightly sorry for the students and thugs as the Twins and Neo struck fear deep into their hearts. And ever since then, they have also begun to train me to fight better.

"I know. I'm-" I began but was cut off.

"Oh no, mister. That's not going to work this time." Pyrrha scolded.

"She's quite protective of him, isn't she?" Miltia asked Blake.

"You have no idea. Plus, she also has a crush on Jaune. So, best not do anything in front of her with Jaune." Blake answered. "Unless you want to cause a lot of drama."

"Don't worry. We won't." The Twins and Neo simultaneously said with a smirk that promised the exact opposite.

"Does he know?" Miltia asked.

"Nope. He's clueless in the relationship department. I'm surprised you three even managed to clue him in." Blake answered.

"It certainly took a lot. Thankfully, Neo's forwardness helped a lot." Melanie explained while Neo did a cute wink.

"Pyrrha, please calm down!" I nearly shouted, finally managing to stop her rambling and catching everyone's attention. "How about this? Now that you all know my secret, I come out with everything about being the Real Steel Champion."

"That could work." Some of them said after a moment.

"But you still need to make it up to us." Yang added.

"Fine. How about this? Since I'm going to head to someone to help repair one of my bots, I'll bring you all with us so he can upgrade the

team's bots as well." I offered.

"I'd say that makes it up." Yang said with wide eyes. The others seemed excited as well at the prospect of getting their bots upgraded. However, Pyrrha remained quiet.

"You okay, Pyr?" I asked, worried.

"You said *us* yet were not referring to me and the others. Who else is coming?" She asked, curious.

'Right.' I thought, realizing my mistake. But before I could correct or explain myself, Neo popped up next to me, flashed an evil smile, and kissed me on the cheek.

"JAUNE! WHO'S-" Pyrrha began, furious but was cut off when Neo ended the call.

"I'm dead. Thanks Neo." I said with a sigh as she got off me.

'You're welcome.' She signed while sticking her tongue out at me.

"Who's you're going to meet?" Blake asked, curious.

"The one who created Atom and invented the Shadow Mode function." I answered.

"I'm fairly curious about the story behind that. Anyway, what now?" Blake asked.

"Well, since it's late, I would say head home." I answered. "How about you?"

"Head back to Beacon. But, do you think you can give me a lift as I'm not sure how to get there on foot as I used up all my lien on some snacks and food." She answered with a light blush of embarrassment.

"Sure. The rest of the bots are already heading back to the gym, and I just finished repairing Atom the best I could. Just need to load him into the truck, and we can get going." I answered.

"What gym?" Blake asked, confused.

"Right. I never told you. I own a gym called Tallet's Gym. It's where I keep all my bots and also allow some other handlers to train theirs. But it also acts as my home away from Beacon." I explained.

"In that case, think I can sleep there tonight as the bullheads are closed now?" Blake asked.

"Sure." I answered while ignoring the warning glares the Twins and Neo sent Blake.

Nodding her thanks, she went over to sit down in one of the nearby chairs and read her book. Turning around, I checked over Atom one last time before putting away all my tools and making sure I had all of them with me. Once done, I flipped Atom into controller mode before grabbing the remote. Usually, I would use Shadow Function, but I didn't want to risk anything. Seeing that I was finished, the Twins and Neo smiled before rushing over to me and grabbing my arms. Well, twins grabbed my arms while Neo jumped onto my back. But Blake and I did chuckle a bit when they glared at her.

Exiting the room, we closed the door and made our way through the stadium to the parking lot. However, we did get stopped every now and then by fans wanting my autograph or to take a photo with Atom. After signing the last one, we resumed our way and made it to the parking lot after about twenty minutes. Although, it did take a bit longer than it would have, as we did stop by a store to buy some snacks. Getting to the truck, I stored Atom in the back and hooked him up to the charging station. But as I did so, I noticed that the gentle glow and hum that came from Atom's core was unnervingly quiet and dull.

"Don't worry, Atom. We'll get you fixed up soon." I said while patting him on the chest piece.

"You really care for your bots, don't you?" Blake asked, startling me.

"I do. Atom and the others are part of the family." I answered. She seemed a bit unsettled by this but smiled before nodding and exiting the truck. Turning to Atom one last time, I tapped on his chest before moving him back and exiting the truck. Locking it up, I then went around and got into the driver's seat.

"How long before we get back to your place, Jaune?" Blake asked.

"About two hours. Less now as it's past midnight." I answered.

Turning the truck on, I pulled out, drove through the parking lot, and soon got onto the road. Despite the Twins and Neo falling asleep soon after and Blake reading her book, the trip back home was anything but silent. Mainly because my mind constantly drifted back to both Atom and my teammates. I knew that things would be tense for the next couple of weeks, if not months, for my team and me. Especially Pyrrha since she saw Neo kissing me and was cut off before I could try and explain myself. Yet, for some reason, I didn't know why, but when I saw Pyrrha about to break down in anger, I wanted to just be there and hug her.

However, there was something else on my mind, and that was Atom. While I told the Twins and Neo that it wasn't anything serious, it actually was severe. I only managed to patch it so that it can handle a few more hits. But if anything big or powerful hits Atom, then his core will rupture and become useless. And that gave me a sinking feeling in my stomach as I'm not sure if he would even survive or if I could even repair/salvage him if that does happen.

'I don't think I could handle that if it does happen.' I thought as I turned to back into the alleyway next to the gym.

"How long have you had this gym, Jaune?" Blake asked, curious.

"I've owned the gym for roughly a decade. But I've lived here since I was twelve." I answered, only to become confused when her eyes widened in shock.

"Twelve! Did your parents kick you out, and aren't your seventeen?" She asked, shocked.

"Eighteen, about to be nineteen and no. My grandfather gave me this gym, and with my family's help, I transformed this into a gym for handlers training their bots. I moved into here when I was two years into my career as a handler of Real Steel." I explained as I parked and turned off the car.

"Wow." She gasped as she unfastened her seat belt while I gently shook the Twins and Neo awake.

"Are we here?" Miltia asked while letting out a yawn.

"Yes. Head inside to your rooms and get some sleep." I told them.

'What about you?' Neo asked, stretching a bit.

"I need to check on Atom again and repair a few more things as I have more tools here. Once done, then I'll head to my room." I answered.

"Don't try anything funny." Melanie told Blake with a glare before she, Miltia, and Neo got out of the truck and headed inside.

"I heard from Yang that they were stuck-up bitches that don't care for anyone else. And while I never fully believed Yang when it came to certain things, I was not at all expecting them or Neo to be the protective or jealous types." Blake commented as she followed me to the back of the truck.

"I wasn't expecting that either." I said with a chuckle as I unlocked the door and opened the back of the truck.

"Did they ever attack any other unfortunate girl?" Blake asked as we entered the truck, headed towards Atom, and powered him up. However, what quickly and worriedly caught our attention was that it took much longer for Atom to turn on and become responsive. "I take it that's much longer than normal."

"It is." I answered as I turned on the controller and piloted him out of the truck.

"Do you think you can fix it?" Blake asked as she closed the truck's door and locked it. I shook my head at this as I opened the gym door.

"Unfortunately, not. I don't know anything about his core or Shadow Mode function, and those were the parts that were heavily damaged in this fight." I answered as we headed towards the back where the other boxes were.

"But this guy you said who could upgrade our bots, do you think he can fix Atom?" She asked.

"That's what I'm hoping for, as he did create Atom and Shadow Mode." I answered, doubt trickling in my voice. However, a moment later, my scroll vibrated.

"Could that be the guy?" Blake asked as I took out my scroll.

"It is." I answered, relieved. Reading the message over, I felt my smile grow even wider with a weight being lifted from my shoulders. "And he says he can take a look at Atom next week."

"That's good. Now you all have to deal with is our teammates and possibly, Beacon." Blake said with a smirk.

"Unfortunately." I agreed as I led her to her room before heading to my room to sleep, as it was almost three in the morning.

Two Weeks Later

'Talk about tense.' I thought as the air was so tense that you could feel it weighing you down. Currently, we were in a bullhead traveling to Atlas to where Atom's creator resided. With me were the Twins, Neo, my team, Team Rwby, and Glynda Goodwitch. Glynda came with us at the request of myself and Ozpin to keep the peace. Although, speaking of which, I'm surprised that Yang hasn't attacked Neo yet.

It was two weeks since Atom's fight against Asura and two weeks since my teammates learned that I was the Real Steal champion handler. While initially, we were going to get Atom fixed in the following week, an emergency came up, and we had to push the meeting back by another week. But that was fine by me, as long as Atom gets the help he needs. However, that didn't mean the two weeks flew by or were pleasant; in fact, they were slow as hell and almost unbearable.

As it turned out, not only did my team and friends learn about my secret, but everyone at Beacon now knows that I'm the Real Steel champion handler. And now, everyone wants either my autograph or to become my *friend.* But, since then, Ozpin has assigned me to teach each team how to handle their bots properly. By the end of the first week, I had nearly emptied an entire bottle of aspirin and ended up in the infirmary three times. At the very least, though, they all had a good understanding of their bots and controls by the middle of the second week.

But that wasn't the worst of it. The worst was my teammates and their constant questions and disbelief in me. They wouldn't trust me or let me leave their sights. It got so bad that Ozpin actually had to assign all of us to counseling sessions with Professor Peach. Thankfully though, after two sessions and buying each of them their own large pizza. Although, I did have to also shoe Yang, Ruby, and Nora some of the other bots as well. However, the worst came from Pyrrha. She was incredibly distant from me these two past weeks and would occasionally sand longing glances my way along with a

betrayed look. Whenever I tried to talk to her, she put up a pained smile before walking away.

'What could be bothering her? Could it be the kiss from Neo?' I wondered as I looked in her direction. She was seated on the other side of the bullhead between Nora and Yang. The reason for it was that she nearly attacked the Twins and Neo when they flashed me a smile. That's also the reason why I'm seated between Ren and Blake. However, that did not deter Neo from occasionally sitting in my lap. Thankfully, she stopped doing that when Glynda forced her away with her semblance.

"How long have you known the creator of Atom?" Ruby asked.

"Let's see. I had Atom since I was eleven, and I met him three years afterward, so four-five years." I answered before quickly, explaining that I'm older than them.

"Has he created any other bots with Shadow Mode?" Yang asked, keeping her grip on Pyrrha's arm.

"Not sure." I answered.

"But are you sure that's he willing to upgrade the rest of our bots?" Miltia asked.

"Yes. Before I could even ask him about it, he brought it up. Although, I did have to call him again to tell him about your team's bots coming with us." I answered.

"Do you think he will be able to provide/create an emergency power-off switch?" Glynda asked, curious. I was confused for a moment as to why she would need a switch like that, but then I remembered that the students of Beacon now have their own bots.

"Maybe. But I think he will need to see the bots first. And I mean all of them." I answered after a moment of thinking it over.

"Do you think you can get us a fight, fearless leader?" Nora asked excitedly.

"Sorry, Nora. But none of you are ready, as you are all still learning the basic controls and have yet to move onto the more advanced controls and settings. Maybe in the coming months, I could get you guys a low-tier non-underground match." I answered.

"Underground?" Ruby asked, confused.

"What Mr. Arc is saying, Mr. Rose, is that there are two different settings of fights. Above ground, tournament-style fights and underground fights where anything goes, and there are no rules." Glynda explained before turning to me. "How many underground fighting clubs are there, and are they *safe?* "

"While I cannot give you their addresses, I can say that in Vale, there are around twenty underground fighting arenas." I answered. "Why?"

"So that I, along with the rest of the faculty, will know where to look when one of the teams inevitably tries to get into a fight club before they are ready." She explained while throwing a silent glare to Team Rwby and my team.

"You don't need to worry about that as those fight clubs have strict guidelines on who they let in and will turn anyone away if they don't meet the criteria or recognize them. Either way, I'll give you the locations when we get back to Beacon." I answered with her nodding in understanding. Sitting back down, I closed my eyes and tried to rest as we still had another three hours before we reached our destination. Unfortunately, my motion sickness made that impossible for me.

Three Hours Later

'Thank Oum.' I thought as the bullhead finally landed and opened its doors. However, the cold winds of the Atlas Kingdom reminded everyone to put on their coats before stepping outside.

"So, this guy lives in the Atlas Kingdom?" Pyrrha asked as she looked around, shivering as she was not used to the cold Atlas temperatures.

"Not just that, but he also works for the Atlas Kingdom and has helped Ironwoods on multiple occasions." I answered before having some guys from the Real Steel tournament help unload the bots.

"If that's the case, you could have just told me, and I could have gotten us a much more direct line to him." Weiss commented, annoyed.

"Where is he located anyway?" Ruby asked.

"In the center of this city." I answered.

"And how are we supposed to get there?" The Twins asked, shivering as they were also not used to the cold.

"Don't worry. I called ahead to arrange some rides for us and the bots." I answered with a few trucks.

"How far away is his residence?" Glynda asked as she directed Team Rwby to sit in the first truck while the rest went into the second truck.

"About an hour. Longer since it's snowing and it's close to rush hour." I answered before getting pulled into the truck by the Twins and Neo.

Two Hours Later

"Atlas might be the most advanced Kingdom in Remnant, but even it cannot escape rush hour and heavy traffic." Yang complained as she stretched once she exited the truck.

"I doubt there will ever be a time that heavy traffic and rush hour does not exist." Blake commented as she bookmarked the page of the book she was on.

'So, this is the place.' Neo asked, having used her semblance to disguise herself as an ordinary Beacon student to hide from Atlas soldiers and drones. After all, she was still a criminal wanted by multiple kingdoms.

"Yup." I answered as we gazed upon the towering building.

"What floor do we to go to?" Melanie asked, dreading the possibility of having to climb all these steps.

"The seventh floor. Don't worry. There is an elevator for us and the bots." I answered, causing everyone to let out a sigh of relief.

Nodding to the helpers, we entered the building and headed towards the elevators in the back. Getting in, we pressed the button that would take us to the correct floor, with the doors closing a second later. After a few moments of tense silence, we reached the correct floor with the elevator doors opening a second later. Stepping out, I had to suppress a chuckle when I noticed everyone's awed expression at the technological marvels they were seeing. I know I felt the same when I first came here. Turning around, I was about to motion for the others to follow me but stopped when a voice called out to us.

"Excuse me, what brings you all here?" The voice asked. Turning around, we saw Winter Schnee, the older sister of Weiss, walking towards us with a glare.

"Winter. Good afternoon." Weiss formally greeted with a light bow.

"Good afternoon, Wiess." Winter replied with a bow and a slight smile gracing her features. She then schooled her face before turning back to us. "Why are you all here?"

"Mr. Arc." Glynda said, motioning for me to answer.

"Yes. We're here to see Pietro Polendina." I told her, causing her to raise an eyebrow in confusion.

"Why does that name sound familiar?" We heard Ruby ask.

"I find that doubtful." Winter said suspiciously.

"It's true." The Twins said, backing me up. Winter glared at them and was about to pull out her weapon but stopped when another voice called out.

"Salutations Jaune, and company." The cheery voice shouted. Looking around Winter, we saw a cheerful young girl running towards us. Once she reached us, she clumsily and awkwardly hugged me.

"Hey, Penny. Good to see you." I said as she let go of me.

"PENNY!" Ruby shouted, shocked and happy to see one of her best friends.

"Salutations, Ruby." Penny greeted with a smile as she gave a bone-crushing hug to Ruby.

"How do you know them, Ms. Polendina?" Winter asked, curious.

"That's because Ruby and I are best friends." Penny began as she and Ruby hugged each other again.

"Aw. Isn't that sweet?" Yang teased with a smirk.

"As for Mr. Arc?" Winter reminded.

"He used to watch over Penny when no one else was available." A new voice answered. Turning around, we saw an older man wearing a red vest over a cream shirt with a pink bowtie. However, what stood out about him was that he was coming towards us while sitting down in a specially designed chair.

"Hello, father." Penny said as she walked over to stand next to him.

"What is the nature of this visit, Mr. Polendina?" Winter asked, curious.

"Jaune contacted me two weeks ago to see if I could repair and upgrade the bots he owns. And to upgrade the bots, his friends own as well." He explained.

"And I take it those crates contain these bots." Winter said, eyeing the boxes behind us and the helpers who were getting impatient.

"Very well. But I shall stay to help Glynda ensure nothing goes amiss." Winter said, skeptical of the whole thing. However, we had an inkling that she wanted to meet some of the bots in person as Weiss has.

"Can we hurry this up? We got other places to be?" One of the helpers shouted, annoyed.

"Yes. Follow us." Pietro said before motioning us to follow him to his lab.

"Jaune?" Ruby asked, getting my attention as she walked up next to me.

"Yeah." I said, turning to her.

"Is it true that you used to watch over Penny?" She asked, curious. "Like a babysitter?"

"Kind of. He actually needed someone to watch over her as he was needed in a project, and nobody else was free. And this was a few months after I learned he created Atom. So, contacted me to watch over her." I explained as we made it to Pietro's personal lab.

"Where do you want them?" One of the helpers asked.

"Leave them in the center of the room." Pietro answered as he turned on his lab and machines. The helpers nodded before moving

the bots to the center before leaving. Luckily, they didn't forget to leave a crowbar and keys to open the boxes.

"Are you the one who created Atom and Shadow Mode?" Miltia asked Pietro.

"Yes, I am. He was one of my breakthroughs. Unfortunately, I lost him a long time ago. Thankfully, he was found, repaired, and given a nice home and family by this young man." He answered with a smile.

"Wouldn't that be going a bit much?" Weiss asked.

"To some. But nearly all the handlers and inventors consider the bots as part of the family." Pietro explained before turning to me. "Now, which one should we start with?"

"Atom. He was heavily damaged in his most recent fight against Tak Mashido's latest bot, Asura." I answered.

"Who?" The other asked, curious.

"Tak Mashido. He's both famous and notorious for his bots. He's considered by many as a top-tier bot builder and designer in the history of Real Steel. However, he only saw them as nothing more than steel and bolts. And as soon as one of his bots nearly loses the fight, he scraps the current one and makes a new one." Pietro explained as I opened the box that contained Atom.

"And he cares more for the fame and money than anything else." I added as I finally managed to open the box and grabbed the controller.

"I take it you want me to check on Atom first?" Pietro asked, turning back to me.

"Yes." I answered as I grabbed the controller before turning Atom on. However, like last time, he took roughly a minute to turn on fully. But

what immediately stuck out to everyone was the hissing that was coming from Atom's core.

"Is that normal?" Glynda asked, concerned.

"No, it's not." Pietro said, worried. "Quick, make him sit on the table."

"You can do it, Atom." I said as we all noticed that Atom seemed to be struggling to take a single step. Thankfully, I managed to get him to sit on the reinforced table, where I then had him lie down. "Do you think you can fix him?"

"I need to examine the extent of his damage. But so far, I'd say yes. However, I'm going to need your help. Afterward, I can take a look at the other bots and see what I can do to upgrade them." He answered with an assuring smile. He then turned to the others. "The rest of you can wait outside if you want. But if you choose to stay here, please keep out of the way, so you don't get hurt."

"We'll stay here." The Twins said with Neo nodding her agreement.

"Fine. The rest of you, follow me." Glynda ordered. They seemed a bit hesitant as they wanted to see more about the bots and their inner workings but nodded and followed her to the adjacent room. Turning back to Atom, we opened him and began to work. However, when no one was looking, I placed my hand on his core.

'Hopefully, this will help you, Atom.' I thought as I concentrated and pumped some of my aura into him. But before I could check to see if there was any reaction, Pietro got my attention.

"Alright, Jaune. Let's get to work on repairing Atom." he told me with a smile as he handed me some tools. Nodding, I grabbed the tools, and we began repairing Atom so he could be his old self again. All the while, unaware of the faint white and green glow emanating from Atom's core and eyes.

Notes:

Just a short chapter to get the ball rolling.

Also, should any of the other bots have Shadow Mode function installed into them? Or should Atom be the only one?

Yes, I made Jaune slightly older. But that's only to fit certain aspects of the story such as owning Tallet's gym.

Before going to Beacon, in this story Jaune knew Penny before the others and looked after her on occasion due to him knowing Pietro.

Lastly, since this chapter is going up on December Thirty-First, Happy New Year's Eve. Hope you all had a fantastic day and I hope you all have a blessed New Year.

Chapter 8

Real Steel: Remnant League

Chap 8

"Again, no." I said, slightly irritated as Pietro and I continued working on Atom. Thankfully, Atom's core wasn't as damaged as we initially assumed. But that did not mean he didn't need repairs. Luckily, Pietro had all the necessary tools with him. Although, it was taking longer to finish our task as the others kept bugging us.

"Oh, come on. Can't you make an exception, Jaune?" Yang asked. "I, I mean we, really want to see a live Real Steel tournament and even get to fight in it. Heck, I'll settle for a low-tier tournament."

"Yang, all the WRB tournaments are over for the year. All that's left are the small ones the handlers host. And those are not at all suitable for beginners. Nearly all the handlers that attend have a couple of years of experience. You and the others only got your bots recently. Plus, you still need permission from Glynda or the headmaster to go to one of them."

"Indeed." Glynda said with a glare that told Yang and the others she would not give them permission under any circumstance.

"How long have you been a handler, Mr. Arc?" Winter asked, curious.

"I was eight when I got my first bot and had my first match. But I became an official handler when I turned ten." I answered.

"How many tournaments have you won?" Glynda asked.

"Around twelve or thirteen WRB tournaments. As for unofficial ones, I lost count."

"Wow. I didn't expect there to be so many WRB tournaments." Winter said, surprised.

"The WRB loves its tournaments and tries to host as many as possible. And since Real Steel is now legal, I'm sure the number is going to increase. But if you're talking about championships, then only four. The first one was against Twin Cities. The second one was against Zeus. And the two afterward were title defense matches."

"How did you enter the WRB, Jaune?" Ruby asked.

"Scouts."

"Huh?"

"At nearly every fighting event, official and unofficial, tournament style or underground, there are people who watch the matches to see if any handler and their bot are capable of fighting in the big leagues. If you impress them enough, they will enter you into the league."

"And I'm guessing Finn or the guy that's burnt was the scout that got you in?" Blake asked.

"The burnt guy's name is Archie. But, no. Neither of them got me into the WRB."

"Then, who did, Jaune?" Ren asked, curious.

"I don't know her name. All I know is that she approached me after Atom's fight at one of the tournaments a handler hosted. That WRB tournament was the match where Atom faced off against Twin Cities. After that, I never saw her again."

"I wonder if one day our bot can compete against some of the WRB bots." Nora wondered.

"How about we stick with the basics." Ren suggested.

"I think that would be a good idea." I agreed, recalling how my team and Team Rwby struggled to grasp the basics of making their bot walk properly.

"Alright. And we're done." Pietro said as we set aside our tools. I then closed Atom's back and front before grabbing his controller while Pietro activated Atom. It took a moment, but Atom snapped to attention almost instantly.

"Welcome back to the land of the living, Atom. How do you feel?" I asked as I had him stand up from the table. He looked around for a bit before settling his attention on me. "That's good."

"Hey, Jaune. We're back." Miltia said as she, Melanie, Neo, and Pyrrha returned. The trio had a proud smirk on their faces while Pyrrha was blushing furiously. Yet, she was smiling nonetheless.

"Is everything alright, Pyrrha?" I asked, worried.

"Y-yes. Everything is f-fine, Jaune." She stuttered. But I didn't believe her. However, before I could ask again, Neo tapped my shoulder to get my attention.

"Yes?"

'Um, isn't Atom's core supposed to be a light green?' Confused, I turned to Atom and realized his core and eyes were now a bright yellow-green.

"That's odd."

"Has that happened before, Arc?" Weiss asked with Glynda, Winter, and the others now worried.

"Yes. When I first activated Atom after I found him, his core was a very light green, almost white. But once I finished charging Atom, his core returned to its normal light green color."

"Have him lie back down, Jaune. Let me have a closer look." Pietro said before turning to Penny. "Penny."

"Yes, father."

"Bring me, my energy reader. I want to see something."

"At once, father." Penny said before running out of the room and returning a few seconds later with a strange device. "Here you go, father."

"Thanks, Penny."

"Come on, Atom. Let's make sure everything is alright." I said as I had him sit on the table again.

Pietro then moved to open Atom's back hatch. I was about to turn him off, but Pietro stopped me and explained that to get an accurate reading with his device, Atom needed to remain online. Nodding, I set down Atom's remote before stepping back. Pietro then picked up the device, activated it, and used it to scan Atom. But as soon as he did, the device lit up like Vale does during the Vytal Festival.

"That's interesting." Pietro said as he turned off the device.

"What's interesting, father?" Penny asked.

"According to the readings, Atom's levels are off the chart. It's almost as if something supercharged his core."

"Do you know what could have caused it, Mr. Polendina?" Winter asked.

"I have no idea. This is a first."

"Do we have to worry about it exploding or severely damaging Jaune's robot?" Glynda asked.

"I doubt it. The readings indicate that the new energy levels are not overwhelming Atom's systems. But just to be safe, I'll install a limiter and an emergency shutdown." Pietro answered as he grabbed the necessary tools. "If that's okay with you, Jaune."

"If it means that Atom will be safe, then sure." I answered.

"Okay." Pietro said as he started working. "And once I finish with Atom, I'll get to work on upgrading everyone else's bots."

"Mr. Polendina." Glynda said, getting his attention.

"Yes?"

"Do you think you can install some sort of emergency kill switch in Team Rwby and Team Jnpr's bot?"

"Yes, I can do that. But would you like to have them in their bots controllers or on a separate device like your scroll?"

"Can you do both? One on my scroll and one on a separate device, so I have a backup."

"Of course." He answered as he finished installing the limiter and emergency shut-off switch into Atom. "Now, who's robot is up first?"

Three Hours Later

"Okay, and done." Pietro said as he put away his tools. He then grabbed a small remote and Glynda's scroll. "Everything is on here. All you need to do is enter a simple command, and your students' bots will instantly shut down. I will send you the code later. And this is the backup."

"Thank you, Mr. Polendina." Glynda said, taking her scroll and the remote.

"Can you show us what new features you added to our bots?" Yang asked excitedly.

"Actually." Winter interjected. "Mr. Arc will have to do so when you all return to Beacon as Mr. Polendina has an important meeting he must attend in a few moments."

"Right; thank you for reminding me, Mrs. Schnee." Pietro said before turning to Penny. "Come, Penny. We need you for this meeting."

"Coming, father." Penny said as she and Pietro left the room.

"Allow me to escort the rest of you to your vehicles." Winter said.

"Thank you, Winter." Glynda said.

Winter let out a small smile before motioning for us to follow her. I quickly grabbed Atom's controller and had him follow us. But since the helpers had already left, I had to give my team, Team Rwby, the twins, and Neo a brief rundown on how to operate their bots. Thankfully, they got the hang of it quickly, and we were able to leave the room and follow Winter out of the building. Once we exited the place, I realized that we had left behind the containers, and without them, there was a high probability the bots could fall on us as we traveled to the airstrip. Luckily, I didn't need to worry about that, as Winter had some Atlas Soldiers bring down the boxes. And with a bit of help from Glynda, we managed to get the robots in their storage units and on the vehicles in less than ten minutes. Afterward, we got on with some Atlas Personnel getting into the driver's seat and taking us to the airstrip. Although, I did wonder why Miltia, Melanie, Neo, and Pyrrha boarded the other truck. But I wasn't going to complain as I wanted to keep an eye on Atom to ensure he was alright.

"Hopefully, everything is alright, Atom." I hoped.

"Mr. Arc." Glynda said, getting my attention along with the others. The others are Ruby, Yang, Nora, Ren, and Winter. Winter had come along to ensure that we arrived at the airstrip safely and to talk with Weiss once we got there. But I had an inkling she wanted to ask me a few questions as I remembered that Weiss said she and her sister were big Real Steel fans.

"Yes?"

"Where do you store all your bots?"

"I own a gym my grandfather gave me a while ago. I keep all my bots there when I'm not using them. And if I have an upcoming match, I keep the bot I will use in my truck."

"How many bots in total do you own?" Winter asked. "I know you have Atom, Noisy Boy, Zeus, Ambush, and Twin Cities."

"Currently, I only have those five. I used to have a few others, but I had to scrap them as they became obsolete. I tried to salvage them but got nothing."

"How did you get into Real Steel in the first place, Jaune?" Yang asked.

"My family and I used to watch a couple of WRB tournaments whenever we had a chance. And I always had a fascination with robots and fighting in general."

"Is that why you wanted to become a huntsman?" Glynda asked.

"No. I wanted to protect people. And if I learn a useful fighting technique I could use for Real Steel, well, that is just a bonus."

"That's admirable." Winter said.

"Jaune." Ruby said, getting my attention.

"Yes, Rubes."

"Why did the Twins and the transfer student's bot look so human-like?"

"They are early generation 3. The very beginning to be exact, which also happened to be the time when most handlers and creators started moving away from life-like to flashy."

"How many generations are there?" Ren asked.

"We only recently entered the fourth generation of bots. But generations don't really mean anything, to be honest, as they are just a number. Even if we enter a new generation of bot building, handlers will still build robots from previous generations."

"Do you know why they started out looking similar to humans?" Nora asked.

"And how did Real Steel begin?" Glynda asked.

"Those two things actually tie in with each other." I answered. "But anyway. The reason why Real Steel took off was because the money moved on. And the reason for that was that the people wanted more carnage and action. While huntsmen and huntresses could give the people what they wanted, it was too expensive, and they could use their skills to protect the people rather than provide them with a show. So, after some debate and looking, the founders stumbled upon what they thought could be the answer to their prayers."

"And what was that?" Yang asked.

"It was the Robot Combat League. In some ways, you could say it is the predecessor to Real Steel. People would use a suit to control robots they built to fight."

"Is it still ongoing?" Winter asked.

"There is the occasional tournament. But there are far fewer as it has fallen out of favor to Real Steel."

"Have you ever participated in it?" Ren asked.

"Twice. The first time was to help someone test a new exoskeleton, and the other was to act as a warmup for the champion."

"So you have been surrounded by robots nearly all your life." Glynda said.

"Pretty much."

"Do they pay well, Jaune?" Nora asked.

"Initially, no. However, that's only because you have to pay for certain expenses, and newcomers don't make much. But after a few good matches and a few victories, your payout increases to the point where you can live comfortably off the income you earn from fights."

After that, the others did not ask any more questions about Real Steel. I was thankful for this as I wanted to keep an eye on Atom. After about an hour, we reached the airstrip with the Atlas personnel taking the containers off the trucks and loading them onto the bullhead. Although, before I could get on, Pyrrha pulled me to the side and handed me my motion sickness pills. I smiled before taking them and thanking her. We then boarded the bullhead once the Atlas soldiers finished securing our bots. But I wasn't surprised when Neo and the Twins grabbed me and forced me to sit between Miltia and Neo. Yet, I didn't miss the longing glance Pyrrha sent our way.

'Hopefully, everything is alright. But I'll ask her again when we get back to Beacon.' I thought as I felt Miltia and Neo snuggle into me.

Two Hours Later

Beacon Academy

"Mr. Arc." Glynda said as we got off the bullhead after arriving at Beacon Academy.

"Yes?" I asked while looking toward the Atlas Personnel as they conversed with some helpers I hired to bring my bots back to my gym.

"Please come with me to the headmaster's office. There is something we need to discuss regarding your status as the Real Steel champion."

"Okay."

"Do you want us to come with you?" Pyrrha asked.

"It'll be okay, Pyrrha." I said with a smile. She smiled and nodded before running off with the others. But as she left, I made a mental note to talk to her later. And possibly plan some time together as we hadn't been able to in a while. Hopefully, the Twins and Neo don't ruin it. Although, I am still curious about what they discussed with Pyrrha when we were at Pietro's lab, as they were gone for over an hour.

Headmaster's Office

"Mr. Arc. Do you know why I had Glynda bring you here?" Ozpin asked as he took a sip of his coffee.

"No." I stuttered.

"Well, as you know, everyone in Beacon and some other academies know you are the Real Steel Champion. This would mean you have extensive knowledge and experience controlling bots, right?"

"Yes."

"And you know each team now has a bot of their own, correct?"

"Yes." I answered as I felt like I knew where Ozpin was heading.

"To keep it simple, it has come to my attention that most of the students are having trouble controlling their bots. And to prevent any future injuries or mishaps, I would like you to tutor them."

"Oh." I said, slightly surprised. But it did make sense that Ozpin would choose me to tutor the other students.

"I know this is sudden, but the sooner the students understand how to control their bots, the better. Plus, we plan on having future

tournaments here at Beacon between the teams and eventually the teams of other Academies."

'Sudden is an understatement.' I thought. "Yeah, that makes sense."

"We are willing to compensate you for any expenses that may arise should you agree, plus some extra lien for helping the school."

'Okay, so I won't have to worry about paying for any damages that occur to the bots. And some additional lien is always nice.' I thought, going over everything before answering. "Alright. I'll help everyone learn to control their bots."

"Thank you, Mr. Arc." Ozpin said before opening his desk's drawer and pulling out a paper and pen. "Now, please sign this so this can be official."

"Okay." I said as I signed the paper. "When should I start?"

"It is Thursday, so I would say Saturday we can begin. That way, I can inform the other students and give them time. The classes would be on the weekends to not cause chaos with everyone's schedule. Also, for the next few weeks, you will be teaching them outside in the front courtyard. I have some people renovating a room you will use when the weather outside is unfavorable." Ozpin answered.

"But will you be willing to teach some of the students at your gym, Mr. Arc?" Glynda interjected, surprising Ozpin.

"I would need to make a few calls to get some others to help me transport the bots, but yeah, I can teach them at my gym." I answered.

"Is it far?" Ozpin asked.

"Not that far from the airstrip we use to get to Beacon."

"Very well. I believe that covers everything we need to discuss. Again, thank you for helping us, Mr. Arc." Ozpin said, getting up.

Nodding, I got up and exited the room.

"Well, that was certainly something. I should contact Finn and see if he knows someone who could help me train the others or at least help transport the bots. I wonder how my team and Team Rwby will react to this." I said as I walked toward my dorm. But after a few steps, I felt a sudden weight on my back. I didn't need to guess to know it was Neo on my back as the familiar scent of her perfume filled my nostrils. And the subtle tightening of her arms around my neck told me she wasn't going to get off. Yet, I wasn't planning on asking her as my mind had drifted back to something else. And that was Atom, as I was still unsure what caused his core to glow.
'Hopefully, it's nothing serious. Wait. Could my aura have caused it?'

Chapter 9

Real Steel: Remnant League

Chapter 9

'So, what did your headmaster want?' Neo signed.

"Well-wait. Are you actually asking?" I asked, knowing how Neo loved to eavesdrop on conversations.

'I am. I couldn't eavesdrop as I just got here.'

"Really? Where were you? I thought you followed me to Ozpin's office?"

'I was, but then I remembered I had to talk to someone. I'll tell you about it another time.' Neo explained. ***'So are you going to tell me?'***

"Ozpin gave me a work proposal. Basically, I help the other students as a side job now."

'Side job? Weren't you already helping the others?'

"Yes, but it was only the bare bones basics. Now Ozpin wants me to teach them all the basics, some of the advanced moves, and train them. But I now also get paid."

'That's good. Speaking of which, when are you going to teach the twins and me how to operate our bots? You only taught us some basic movements.'

"Soon. I still need to look over all the upgrades Pietro gave our bots. After that, we can move on to the next lesson."

'What about the matches? Did you find any yet, or are you waiting?'

"I already found an arena where you and the twins can fight. I haven't signed you guys up yet. But I will when I finish teaching you three how to control your bots."

'Makes sense. What's the name of the arena, and why that one?'

"It's called Purus Sanguis, which is a dead language that loosely translates to fresh blood. It's a popular arena for beginners and returning handlers. But it's only available for them. If you have five or more fights under your belt, you cannot compete there. And if you're returning, it must have been at least 30 months since your last fight."

'Sounds perfect for us. But I take it you can't interfere or do anything once the match begins.'

"That's right. Once the match begins, it's all up to you and the twins."

'Speaking of the twins, are there any tag team matches?'

"No. There used to be tag team matches, but... let's just say things got complicated, and now the organizers discontinued them."

'What about battle royal matches? I think I saw a match a while back.'

"Only in the underworld. But only during special events." I answered as we exited the school.

"What happens during special events?" The twins asked as they and the rest of my friends came running up to us while Neo got off my back. However, my attention immediately settled on a blushing Pyrrha. But once she felt my gaze on her, she looked at me with a warm smile.

"Are you okay, Pyr?" I asked, happy to see her smiling.

"I'm fine, Jaune." She said before moving to stand next to me.

"That's good."

"What special events were you talking about?" Militia asked.

"Neo asked if there were battle royal matches. And I said they only happen in the underworld during special events." I answered.

"That sounds awesome. Do you think you can take us to the next event?" Ruby asked.

"Please, Jaune." Nora added.

"Sorry, guys. But Glynda and Ozpin asked me not to show you any of the underworld arenas." I said.

"Aw." They said.

"Speaking of them, what did Ozpin and Glynda want to talk to you about?" Weiss asked.

"Glynda and Ozpin want me to train the other students in handling their bots. But instead of just teaching them the basics, they also want me to teach them the advanced controls and just continue training them afterward, like our combat classes." I answered.

"Will you be teaching here or at your gym?" Blake asked, surprising the others.

"Wait. You have a gym, Jaune?" Yang asked, shocked.

"Yes, it's called Tallet's gym. It's where I live, practice, and let other handlers train from time to time." I answered before turning back to Blake. "Both, actually. For the first few weeks, I'll be training others outside. The reason for that is Ozpin is having some workers remodel a room I could use. But I will still occasionally take others to my gym to train them. I just need to make a few calls so I can get some helpers to help transport the bots."

"Can we see the place?"

"Another time."

"Do you know when you will be starting and who you are going to train first?" Pyrrha asked, curious.

"Probably in a week or two. Ozpin still needs to announce it to the rest of the school. And he'll probably have a list of the order he wants me to train the other teams. But if not, I'll probably start with Team Cfvy and go on from there."

"And after that, maybe us?" Ruby asked.

"If there is no list, yes. It will be Team Cfvy, my team, and then your team, Rubes. The reason is that I still need to go over the upgrades Pietro gave your bots."

"Makes sense." Weiss said.

"So what now?" Nora asked.

"Well, I have to head to the gym to check on Atom and my other bots. Then I have to do some paperwork to get everything ready." I answered.

"What about you three?" Ren asked.

"We need to head back to work." Militia answered.

"And Neo has some business she needs to tend to." Melanie added with Neo nodding.

"And before any of you say anything." Militia said, glaring at Yang. "There are things we do that don't involve the law, crime, or anything else you're thinking."

"Speaking of which, we better get going. Junior is getting impatient." Nodding, the twins left, with Neo following behind.

"We better get going as well. While watching the fights was fun, we still need to study for Oobleck's upcoming test." Weiss said, causing Yang and Ruby to groan.

"While Weiss and I are prepared for it, we need to help these two with their studies." Blake added, earning a HEY! from the others.

"See you guys later." Weiss said as they walked off with a grumbling Ruby and Yang following behind.

"What about you three?" I asked.

"Renny and I have a project to do for Professor Peach's class." Nora answered.

"And we need to get started as we are a bit behind schedule." Ren said before grabbing Nora's hand and heading inside.

"Do you have anything to do, Pyr?" I asked.

"No. I finished all my assignments and don't need to do anything else today." She answered.

"That's good. So you have the whole day to yourself."

"Yes. But would it be alright if I came with you? We haven't had any chance to spend time together."

"Sure." I answered, smiling. Smiling herself, we headed to the bullheads so we could get to Vale. While this wasn't how I planned it, I was glad I could at least spend some time with her. And perhaps I could find out what was troubling her earlier.

Two Weeks Later

"Come on. Aim up!" I shouted as I controlled the training bot. Inputting the commands, I had the robot sidestep Team Cfvy's cross and counter with two light jabs.

"WE'RE TRYING!" Coco shouted, annoyed as she fought with the controls.

"Stay calm." Moving my hands across the screen, I had the training bot fade back twice before moving around and heading to the other side of the ring.

"Damn it." Coco said, trying to have her bot catch the training bot.

"Hold on. Let me try." Yatsuhashi said as he took the remote. It took him a moment to stabilize the bot. But once he did, he had it turn to face the training bot and taunt it.

"That's it. You don't always have to chase your opponent." I said.

Moving the training bot closer to their robot, I had it duck underneath an attack. Yatsuhashi kept up the pressure by having their robot continuously attack. Yet, he failed to land a single hit. After the fifth attempt, I had the training bot counter with an uppercut before backing off. Team Cfvy's robot stumbled back but recovered quickly. Yatsuahashi then had it re-engaged and managed to land three hits to the training bot. However, after the third body shot, I had the training bot return to the corner.

"Hold it. Stop, stop." I shouted as I placed the controller on the table before walking over to Team Cfvy.

"Did we do something wrong, Jaune?" Velvet asked.

"Yes, and no." I answered. "Give me the remote for a moment."

"What do you mean by yes and no?" Fox asked.

"One part isn't something on your end. I need to calibrate it on the remote. The other part is your fighting style."

"Our fighting style? What's wrong with it?" Coco asked.

"I thought the robots were already programmed on how to fight correctly." Yatsuhashi said, slightly confused.

"Well, yes, but that's not what I meant." I answered as I finished reconfiguring the remote and handed it back to Velvet. "You know how some huntsmen and huntresses are more suited to fighting in the front lines while others prefer to fight from the rear?"

"Yeah." They answered.

"It's basically that. Zeus is more of a tank brawler, while Noisy Boy is a glass cannon. Your bot is somewhere in the center. It can take a few light hits and even fewer heavy hits. Yet it is still somewhat lightweight and fast. Use the speed to your advantage to hit your opponent and evade their attacks and counterattacks. But don't worry too much about making a small mistake or your opponent getting a lucky hit, as you can tank through a few."

"So go in and out, bob and weave and use the armor to fix our mistakes." Coco said.

"Yes, but don't rely on it too much, as it can only take a few hits."

"Got it."

"But what did you mean when you say aim higher?" Fox asked.

"Your bot is only slightly taller than Atom. And he is on the short side of bot heights. So more often than not, you're going to be facing opponents that are bigger than you. That's why you need to aim higher when you are manually making it fight. But don't worry, when you input a combo command; I already adjusted it so it would automatically hit higher."

"Thanks." Velvet said.

"So what's next?" Coco asked.

"Actually, nothing. It's already six pm, so we're done for the day." I answered.

"Wow. Time sure does fly." Yatsuhashi said, surprised.

"Anything you want to focus on until our next session?" Coco asked.

"No, not really. Well, it would be good to look over the combos in your controller so you have them memorized. It won't do you any good if you forget what they do during a real match."

"True. See you Monday, Jaune." Velvet said as she and the rest of Team Cfvy exited the gym. But as they did, Team Rwby, my team, the Twins, and Neo entered.

"Hey, guys." I said as I went to the other side of the ring to grab the remote of the training bot.

"Hey, Jaune." Pyrrha said, smiling.

"How was your class with Team Cfvy?" Yang asked.

"It went well. They only occasionally have some trouble with controlling their bot. But what they are really having trouble with is the positioning and fighting style of their bot. They are sometimes too aggressive or too passive. But other than that, Team Cfvy is in a good spot." I answered.

"Do you think they will be up for a match soon?" Militia asked.

"No, not yet. Maybe in another week or two of training, and they can have their first fight."

"What about us?" Nora and Ruby excitedly asked.

"Maybe another month of training. Or two."

"Aw." They pouted.

"Anyway, what are you guys doing here? I thought you were all busy?" I asked as I had the training bot exit the ring and had it enter the adjacent room where I kept other training bots.

"We already finished." Weiss said.

"And since we were in town, we decided to stop by. But we also got you something since we figured you might be hungry." Ren said as he tossed me a white bag. Opening it, I saw that they had brought me a burrito.

"Thanks." I said as I grabbed it, opened it, and took a bite.

"Anyway, since you're done for today, what now?" Blake asked, looking around the gym.

"Well, I just need to put away a few things and get Team Cfvy's bot ready for the workers to transport it back to Beacon. After that, I'll probably take a rest since I got nothing else to do."

"Well, since you're free, can you give us a private lesson, Jaune?" Yang asked.

"Sorry, I'm a little tired. And besides, I don't have your bots here. They are still at Beacon."

"Right, forgot about that."

"In that case, since we still have some time left, how about we watch a movie? I'm thinking about that-" Melanie began, but a knock on the door cut her off.

Knock Knock

"Are you expecting anyone, Jaune?" Pyrrha asked.

"No. Not for another half hour at least." I answered as I set down my food on the table before heading to the door. Opening it, I saw three people I vaguely recall seeing at one point standing next to a box.

But I knew who they were when they showed me their WRB IDs. "Yes? Can I help you?"

"Jaune Arc?" One of them asked.

"Yes. That's me."

"Sign here, please." The lady asked, handing me a pen.

"Uh, what's this for?" I asked as I looked over the paper.

"To gain temporary ownership of this bot. There's a paper inside that will explain everything."

"Oh, okay. A little heads up would have been nice, but alright." I said, signing the paper and handing it back.

"Okay, if you can just open the door, we can put it inside and get out of your hair."

"Give me a moment then." I said before heading back inside.

"Who was that, Jaune?" Neo signed.

"Some people from the WRB." I answered as I opened the gate, with the people entering a second later.

"Where do you want it?" One of the WRB members asked.

"On the other side of the room next to the ring." Nodding, they moved the box to the other side of the room before removing their equipment and leaving.

"What's in the box, Jaune?" Weiss asked.

"Another bot?" Melanie asked.

"Yes. But I'm not sure which one." I answered as I examined the box.

"Well, open it, and let's find out." Nora excitedly said. Chuckling, I unfastened the strap and opened the box. But while the others were confused, I was shocked at what we saw.

"WOW! IT LOOKS AWESOME!" Ruby and Nora shouted in awe while the others nodded.

"What bot is that? I've never seen this one before." Miltia asked.

"This is Diablo: The Dark Prince." I answered as I activated the bot that genuinely looked like a demon. Once on, it stepped out of the box with its head catching 'on fire.' "It's one of the toughest bots out there. It can easily go toe-to-toe with Asura, Zeus, and others."

"Then how come we've never seen it before?" Weiss asked.

"That's because Diablo cannot compete in regular matches or tournaments."

"Why's that?" Blake asked, curious.

"The reason coincides with why's he so tough and durable. Diablo has special modifications that increase his defense and attack. And those modifications are illegal, even in the underworld."

"If that's the case, is he just for display?" Ren asked.

"No. While Diablo cannot compete in regular tournaments, he can compete in special ones. But these only happen twice a year. The first is during Halloween and the other when the underworld fights end for the year. Think of Diablo as a sort of super bot that's reserved only for special occasions."

"So what's he doing here?" Nora asked. "Can we pilot him?!"

"No, sorry, Nora. But as for the reason he's here, it seems like the WRB decided to have me control him for the next tournament."

"Wow." The other said.

"When it happens, can you get us in?" Ruby asked.

"To watch, yes. To participate, no. All of you are still learning. The ones who will be fighting are experts." I answered as I deactivated Diablo.

"It would have been more fun competing but watching the fight will do." Melanie said, with the others nodding.

"But anyway." I said, yawning. "Well, I can work on that tomorrow. Anyway, do you guys still want to see that movie?"

"Sure." They answered.

"And in the meantime, we can discuss when we can set up the date for our match." Milita said.

"Wait. You have a match set up for THEM and NOT US!" Yang shouted.

"Yes, and the reason is simple. They have a little bit more experience than you guys." I nervously answered. "Even before you all found out I was a handler, I was teaching them."

"Still."

"Okay. You're right. Next week, I'll give you all a few private lessons. And when I feel like you guys are ready, I'll find a match." I said as we exited the gym.

"That'll do. But that reminds me." Ruby began, hoping to change the subject. "How's Atom doing?"

"He's doing fine. All his systems are alright, and nothing seems out of the usual outside of his core being yellow-green. But outside of that, it's almost like his fight with Asura never happened."

"That's good. I would hate to see him be deactivated since he clearly means so much to you." Pyrrha said.

"He really is." I said, smiling. Yet, while nothing seemed wrong, I was still concerned for Atom. Everything was alright, yet I still could not determine why his core changed colors.

Next Week

"Okay, guys. That's it for today. Good job." I said as I finished the lesson with a fourth-year team.

"Alright. Thanks for the lesson." The leader said before they exited the gym.

"That went better than expected." I said, relieved. While most of the teams I trained so far were nice and listened to my advice, others didn't. "Far better than yesterday's team. If they continue like this, I should probably tell Ozpin I won't train them again."

"Who won't you train again?" Militia asked as she, Neo, and Melanie entered.

"The team I was training yesterday. It was a bit rough, to say the least." I said as I checked the clock on the wall. "Either way. Are you three ready for your first match?"

"Yes." The Twins answered while Neo nodded.

"When is our match again?" Miltia asked.

"It starts in about three hours. However, it is a bit far. So we need to go now." I answered.

"What about our bots?" Neo asked.

"I already have them in the truck, along with some snacks for the road."

"Then let's get going. I can't wait." Militia excitedly said.

Chuckling, we exited the gym and got into the truck. Starting it, I drove the truck out of the alleyway and began heading toward our destination. Thankfully, because it was evening on a Saturday night, there was barely any traffic. And this was good as we were running a bit tight on time. However, as we continued making our way there, I felt like something was following us. Yet, I saw nothing in the side or rearview mirrors. Thinking it was just some anxiety or adrenaline, I shrugged it off and focused on the road.

Two Hours Later

"Alright. We're here." I said as I pulled into the driveway and showed the guard my ID.

"Uh, what's with the design?" Neo signed, curious about all the weapons and decorations that made this place look like a warrior tribe.

"All right. Everything checks out. You can go on in." The guard said as he returned my ID.

"Thanks." I said as I drove forward and headed toward the parking lot. "Anyway. Remember Vacuo and how it's made up of a lot of different tribes for the most part?"

"Yeah." They answered.

"Well, one of the tribes heavily followed the ideals of a warrior. But to keep a long story short, one member left it all behind and opened this place. And the name Purus Sanguis, which means fresh blood, is a title given to people who have yet to prove themselves in a fight. As for the decorations, it's mostly to drive home the idea of a warrior-themed place while also a callback to his home." I explained as I parked the truck.

"Is the guy still here?" Milita asked.

"No. He retired a while back. He was already nearing his fifties when he founded this place."

Going around to the back, I opened the truck and got inside. While it was a tight fit, I managed to put all three bots in without them grinding against each other. Walking around, I activated them before grabbing the remotes and handing them to the twins and Neo. And almost like they had been doing this for years, they effortlessly guided their bots back to the ground. After I locked up the truck, we made our way toward the center area where the brackets were, and the betting took place.

"So, who are we fighting?" Miltia asked.

"And in what order?" Melanie asked.

"Well, it seems like it will be Neo, Miltia, and then Melanie. It will be Neo against Aquabot. Militia against Albino. And Melanie against Gridlock." I answered before quickly adding. "Remember. I can't give you three any advice. It's all up to you."

"IS THAT A TRUEBORN THAT I HEAR!?" A voice shouted.

"Trueborn?" Neo signed, confused.

"Just a fancy title for people that grew up with bots and Real Steel." I explained.

"And those that have at least ten victories under the belt." A lady added as she landed in front of them. She was tall and lean, with dark hair and a build that reminded them of a bodybuilder that spent over a decade training.

"Hey, Marthe." I said.

"Hey, Jaune." Marthe said, smiling. "Good to see you."

"Good to see you, too. How's the arena?"

"Hectic, but overall fine. A bit busy, as you can imagine since there are so many new people that want to prove themselves."

"I can imagine. The headmaster at my school even asked me to train some of the students since he got all the teams their own bots."

"Must be a nightmare. But anyway, while I'm glad to see you, why are you here? You know this place is only for new and returning handlers."

"I know. But I'm not fighting. They are." I said, pointing to Neo and the Twins. "They have been fans of the sport for a long time and recently got their own bots. And now I feel like they are ready for their first fight."

"Oh, okay. But you know you can't give them any advice or instructions, right?"

"I know."

"Well, enough talking." Marthe said, checking the time on her watch. "The first match is about to start. You best get you, your girlfriends, and their bots to the stage."

"Right. See you, Marthe." I said. She nodded before running off.

"She seems... odd." Miltia said.

"Yeah." Neo signed.

"But I wouldn't say that to her face since she looks like she can crush us with one hand." Melanie added.

"Yeah, you can say that. But Marthe is a lot nicer than she looks and can keep her anger in check. Just don't try your luck; otherwise, she will put you six feet under." I said.

"Noted." They said.

"Anyway. Let's get going. Neo's match is about to begin, and I want to give your bots one last look over before it starts." Nodding, they followed me to the repair area.

Twenty Minutes Later

"YEAH! ARE YOU READY, WARRIORS?!" Marthe shouted from atop her chair that was on a nearby hill.

"YEAH!" The spectators cheered.

"TONIGHT! WE GOT SOME PURE BLOODS LOOKING TO TEST THEIR MIGHT AND POSSIBLY BECOME TRUEBORNS." Marthe shouted as the gates slowly opened to allow both handlers and their bots access to the ring and pathway.

"Do we have to dance?" Neo signed.

"No. But that reminds me. While we did pick out some songs for your bots, we still need to finish it up by adding some flair to the entrance." I answered.

"I wonder who Aquabot is. I never heard of that bot before." Militia said, curious.

"Nor the others." Melanie said.

"Wouldn't surprise me. But I'll explain everything once the matches are over."

"NOW. OUR FIRST MATCH FEATURES A BOT FROM THE ICY WATERS OF THE ATLANTIC, THE DESTROYER FROM THE DEEP! THE DIVER BOT! AQUABOT!" Marthe said as the spotlight revealed Aquabot. As the crows began cheering, Aquabot threw two hooks before bending his knees and coming up with an uppercut. He then made his way to the ring as his music began to play.

And now I'm dangerous

Hateful, contagious

It haunts us

I'm angry (I'm angry)

I'm raging (I'm raging)

I'm breaking through the pain

The monster's loose

And now you know the truth

Tell me can you feel it

As you hit the wall

The monsters loose

And now you have to choose

And prove you can take it

To the top before you fall

Reaching the ring, the ropes retracted to allow Aquabot to enter. And once he was in his corner, Marthe got back on the speaker.

"AND NOW, HIS CHALLENGER. THIS PURE BLOOD HAS BROUGHT BACK AN EARLY GENERATION 3 BOT OUT OF RETIREMENT. BUT LET'S SEE IF THIS PURE BLOOD CAN PULL A WIN IN HER FIRST-EVER MATCH. WELCOME TO THE ARENA, THE BEATDOWN DANCER: DJ ELECTRIX!" Marthe announced as the spotlight appeared on Neo and her bot.

"Good luck." I whispered as their song played.

Riprock, AG, come in, over

Yo, turn me up; I wanna be heard

See, I'm talkin' about the future, y'all

And the future looks bright

'Specially when we rip it in half

Here it comes, millennium

And everybody's talkin' 'bout Jerusalem

Is this the beginning or beginning of the end?

Well, I've got other thoughts, my friend

See, I've got my eyes on the skies...

The heavenly bodies up high...

And if you're in the mood to take a ride... (a ride)

Then strap on a suit and get inside...

If you wanna fly

Come and take a ride

Take a space ride with the cowboy, baby

If you wanna fly

Come and take a ride

Take a space ride with the cowboy, baby

Smiling, Neo made her to the ring with her bot following her. Once at the ring, she entered and went to her corner. The Twins and I then ran over to her corner as Marthe picked up the mic again.

"ALRIGHT! LET THE BLOOD SPILL!" Marthe shouted as the bell rang.

"Good luck." I said.

'Thanks.' Neo mouthed as she had her bot raise her arms.

"FIGHT!" Marthe shouted.

Readjusting her grip on the remote, Neo had her bot slowly move around the ring, with Aquabot mirroring her movement. After a few seconds, Aquabot rushed in to make the first attack. Thinking it was going to be a cross or lunging jab, Neo tried to have her bot fade back. However, this proved ineffective as Aquabot instead threw a low, curved diving punch, which sent DJ Electrix stumbling back.

"It looks like DJ Electrix and her handler is learning the hard way how Aquabot gained the title of the Diver Bot from the Deep." Martha announced.

"Cheap." Neo mouthed as she regained control of her bot's footing.

Circling around the ring, Neo had her bot keep a good amount of distance between itself and Aquabot. But after a second, she had Dj Electrix run towards Aquabot. Yet, due to Dj Electrix's speed, Aquabot's handler wasn't able to react in time. This allowed Neo's bot to land two crosses to Aquabot's face, followed by an uppercut. Aquabot managed to block the next attack and tried to counter with two strikes to the midsection. However, Neo managed to have Dj Electric move out of range, but not before landing another cross to Aquabot's face.

"Hah! It looks like this old Dj is not only still as fast as she used to be, but it seems like she learned some new tricks." Martha shouted as the crowd continued cheering.

'I think I got this.' Neo mouthed as she pressed her advantage. But as soon as her bot got close, Aquabot ducked under her attack and

countered with two uppercuts to the body, followed by a cross to the face that sent Dj Electrix stumbling back to the other side of the ring. ***'Or, maybe not.'***

"I think I see a way Neo can win. What about you, Jaune?" Melanie asked.

"Sorry, I can't say anything." I said.

"So, you can't say anything at all?" Militia asked.

"Well, I can speak. But it can't be about Real Steel or anything relating to it." I explained before turning back to the fight.

Now with some breathing room, Aquabot kept his arms up as his handler carefully eyed Neo's bot's movement. And any time Neo tried to move close, Aquabot's handler had his bot move to the other side while keeping his fists near his chest. Curious, I strained my eyes and saw something that reminded me why Aquabot was never a great contestant.

'Right. Aquabot doesn't have great defense or offense capabilities. A good, heavy hit to the chest and Aquabot is flattened like a pancake. Or something unlucky enough to be on the receiving end of Nora's hammer. And he has to rely on the same combos to deal any significant damage.' I thought.

Getting tired of his constant evasions and counters, Neo decided to switch up her tactics. Moving to the side, Neo had her bot move to the side until Aquabot was in front of the ring's corner. And as soon as this happened, Neo adjusted her grip on the controller before having Dj Electrix move side-to-side swiftly until she cornered Aquabot as he backed up. But he stopped when his back hit the pole.

Realizing the situation, Aquabot's handler desperately tried to get his bot out of the corner. However, a swift hook to the face from Dj Electrix stopped that from happening. Not letting up, Neo had Dj

Electrix deliver cross after cross to the face and chest. And any time Aquabot tried to counter, Neo had Dj Electrix fade back or duck before retaliating with an uppercut.

'Looks like Neo won her first match.' I thought, smiling as Neo's attacks left Aquabot severely damaged. But I became confused when she had Dj Electrix take a step back, only to realize what she was going to do next. *'Looks like she is going to end the fight in style.'*

Smirking, Neo had Dj Electrix close the distance before delivering an overhead strike that nearly sent Aquabot to his knees. She then landed two uppercuts, one on the chest and the second to the face, which left Aquabot stunned. Then, to my surprise, Neo tapped something on her controller. Turning back to the fight, I became even more surprised when Dj Electrix started to perform a small dance. Yet, before I could question it, Neo had Dj Electrix deliver a dual uppercut hit to the face, which sent Aquabot out of the ring, defeated.

"YEAH!" The crowds cheered.

"IT SEEMS THIS DJ STILL HAS HER CHARMS AND SKILLS. AND THE DESTROYER OF THE DEEP HAS BEEN DROWNED." Martha announced.

"Congratulations, Neo. You won your first match." I said as I helped Neo get her bot out of the ring.

"Thanks. It a tough, though, considering I forgot some of the moves and combos I put into the remote." Neo signed.

"Speaking of which, when did you teach Dj Electrix to dance?"

"While you were teaching the twins a while back. I was fiddling around and remembered how you danced with Atom. So I decided to see if I could do the same. It was a pain to get it installed, though."

"Well, it does suit Dj Electrix." I said as I gave her a quick look over. Thankfully, she didn't suffer any significant damage. There were a few bumps and dents, but I could buff them out later. "Anyway. We better get ready. Militia's fight is about to begin."

Five Minutes Later

"ALRIGHT! OUR NEXT MATCH FEATURES ANOTHER PUREBLOOD FACING OFF AGAINST ANOTHER RETURNING HANDLER! THIS BOT RAN WITH THE BIG BOYS IN THE WRB! INTRODUCING THE TRANSPARENT CALLIOPE WITH A WHIPLASH PUNCH! THE GREAT WHITE HOPE! ALBINO!" Martha announced as the spotlight appeared over Albino. Lifting its head up, Albino raised its arms to bask in the cheers before slamming them together.

'Wait. Albino? Why is he here?' I thought, confused. But I then remembered that Albino had retired from the big leagues and moved to the underworld for the remainder of his run. And his last fight was in Crash Palace before disappearing entirely. *'I guess he and his handler want to come back.'*

It's just another war

Just another family torn

(Falling from my faith today)

Just a step from the edge

Just another day in the world we live

I need a hero to save me now

I need a hero (save me now)

I need a hero to save my life

A hero'll save me (just in time)

Once Albino reached the ring, his handler had him enter the ring before moving to the corner. But his showboating wasn't done yet. The handler had Albino perform a few more combos before basking in the cheers one final time.

"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! THE BRINGER OF DESTRUCTION! THE QUEEN OF CARNAGE! SCARLETTE!" Martha announced.

"Good luck, Militia." I said, earning a smile from her. She then rolled her shoulders as the spotlight shone on her and Scarlette.

You wanna rumble in my jungle?

I'll take you on

Stampede your rump-a

And send you home

You wanna rumble in space?

I put my laser on stun

And on the North Pole

I'll ice you, son

Smirking, Miltia, and Scarlette sashayed down the pathway. And every now and then, Militia had Scarlette blow a kiss into the crowds. Once they reached the ring, Miltia walked to our corner while Scarlette entered. However, rather than walking toward her side, Militia had Scarlette spin toward it.

'This will be interesting. Albino is fast and uses swift attacks to overwhelm and eventually defeat his opponent. But as a cost, he has weak armor.' I thought before turning to Scarlette. *'Scarlette has decent speed and great strength. But she also has weak armor. However, from the upgrades Pietro gave her, she is now more agile and can recover from hits far quicker than before.'*

"ALRIGHT! LET'S SEE IF SCARLETTE CAN KEEP HER TITLE OF QUEEN OF CARNAGE! OR CAN ALBINO'S WHIPLASH KNOCK OFF SCARLETTE'S CROWN!" Martha said as the bell rang.

"Okay. Let's see how this goes." Militia said as she had Scarlette engage Albino.

However, the difference in skill was immediately demonstrated. Albino's handler waited until Miltia had Scarlette make the first attack. Albino effortlessly evaded the attack and countered with a lunging right hook. Yet, thanks to Scarlette's extended torso, Militia was able to have her recover and retaliate with her own lunging cross. Yet, Albino dodged it with ease.

"IT SEEMS LIKE THE QUEEN HAS FORGOTTEN SOME LESSONS. AND IT LOOKS LIKE ALBINO IS REMINDING HER THE HARD WAY!" Martha said.

"Damn it." Militia said as she moved Scarlette away from Albino.

However, Albino did not give her a chance to breathe as he immediately went after her. Luckily, before he could make an attack, Militia evaded before, landing a strike against Albino's head. Yet, all it did was deter him from following after her.

"I don't think this will end well for Militia. Albino's handler still seems to retain his skill from fighting in the league." Melanie said as we saw Militia struggling to maintain some distance from Albino.

'We'll see.' I thought. Although, I was mentally slapping myself for not thinking about this situation beforehand. I should have known there was a chance for a more experienced handler to appear. *'I shouldn't have gotten them this match yet. I should have taught them a bit more.'*

Turning back to the fight, I saw that Albino was trying to corner Scarlette so he could finish the fight. Yet, thanks to Scarlette being quick and agile, she managed to prevent that from happening.

However, we knew it was only a matter of time before Militia's luck ran out.

'Como on, Militia. You can do it.'

"IT SEEMS LIKE THE GREAT WHITE HOPE IS GIVING THE QUEEN A RUN FOR HER CROWN!" Martha said as Scarlette barely dodged a hook to the face.

"This guy is pissing me off." Militia said as she had Scarlette lean to the left to avoid a cross and retaliate with an uppercut. However, this revealed something to Miltia. "Wait a minute."

"Neo is asking what is it?" Melanie said.

"I think I found a way to beat this guy."

"How?" Melanie asked.

"I'll show you."

Turning back to the ring, we saw Militia have Scarlette duck under Albino's hook before moving to the other side of the ring. However, instead of trying to maintain the distance as she had done before, Militia now had Scarlette taunt Albino by blowing him a kiss. Yet, Albino did not take the supposed 'bait' as his handler made Albino move over to Scarlette cautiously. But as soon as he was about to be within arms reach, Albino performed a swift lunging strike. However, Scarlette ducked under the attack and moved out of the way, which revealed Albino's weakness. And that weakness was him becoming off balance when he missed a fast or lunging attack and his long recovery time.

"He's open." Melanie said. "Take him down."

"With pleasure." Militia said.

'Careful, Militia. Don't get cocky.' I thought, remembering how some handlers lost their match because they got careless.

Turning back to the fight, we saw Scarlette quickly re-engage Albino and deliver two swift jabs to the chest, followed by an uppercut to the head. The blow sent Albino reeling back. Yet, due to his long recovery time, Scarlette was able to capitalize on this and close the distance without any worry of getting hit. She then landed two hooks to the face, followed by three uppercuts to the chest, and ending with two jabs to the face, followed by a cross.

"NOW WE GET TO SEE THE QUEEN OF CARNAGE IN ACTION! LET'S SEE IF THE GREAT WHITE HOPE CAN WITHSTAND HIS PUNISHMENT!" Martha said, riling up the crowd.

'That's it, Militia. Keep it up.' I thought as Militia had Scarlette disengage and create some distance from Albino before taunting him again.

Albino rushed toward Scarlette and tried to land a hook on her. But Scarlette ducked under it before countering with an uppercut. Annoyed, Albino's handler threw all caution to the wind and started having Albino attack recklessly. Yet, Scarlette did not retaliate after evading any attack. After a couple of seconds, Albino backed up and tried to hit Scarlette with a lunging cross. Unfortunately for him, Scarlette ducked under the attack.

"Bad move." Militia said before having Scarlette perform her own lunging attack. And once it connected, it sent Albino to the ground and caused him to suffer from a system failure.

"AND IT SEEMS LIKE THE QUEEN GETS TO KEEP HER GROUND! AND THE GREAT WHITE HOPE HAS FALLEN!" Martha announced as some engineers came out to bring Albino out of the ring and toward the repair area to fix him.

"That was too close." Militia said as Neo had Scarlette exit the ring.

"It was. But you pulled through in the end." I said.

"Yeah. But a little warning that we could have been going against a professional handler would have been nice."

"Sorry." I sheepishly said. "Anyway. Now it's time for Melanie's fight."

"Who am I fighting again?" Melanie asked.

"I can't say. Sorry."

"Right." She said with a sigh. "Let's get ready then."

Ten Minutes Later

"NOW! FOR OUR FINALPUREBLOOD MATCH! WE HAVE A RETURNING BOT THAT NOT ONLY RAN WITH THE BIG BOYS BUT WAS ONE OF THE BOTS THAT FOUGHT AGAINST ZEUS HIMSELF! HE WAS CRUSHED AND HAS RETIRED SINCE THEN. BUT NOW, HE'S READY TO RETURN AND PUMP UP THE IRON! THE BRONZED BODYBUILDER BOT! GET IN A JAM FOR GRIDLOCK!" Marhta announced as the spotlight revealed Gridlock.

'I'm definitely kicking myself in the ass later.' I thought, annoyed with myself, as Melanie would be fighting another professional handler and his bot. Looking back at Gridlock, I saw that he was flexing his arms before acting like he was lifting weights.

Thunder racing through our veins

One breath provokes a storm

Lightning floods the iron chains

Our limbs start to deform

Voltage boils our blood in seconds

Let us now nourish on its sting

Feast on its sting

We face the heat and fight the storm

Raging in our head

We walk this road and won't step back

Till we're among the dead

Flex – muscles tight

Made of steel

Once at the ring, Gridlock struck a pose before entering. But instead of going to his corner, he went around the ring while flexing. However, while the crowd cheered at him, I was focused on the handler herself. It didn't click with me at first, but once it did, I let out a sigh of relief. The handler wasn't Gridlock's original owner, that piloted him during his time at the WRB.

'Oh, thank Oum.' I thought as the handler smiled at all the cheers her bot was getting. *'Well, at least Gridlock is functional once again and found a new owner instead of being sent to the scrapyard. I wonder how experienced this handler is and what happened to his original owner?'*

"NOW! THE QUEEN OF CARNAGE HAD HER TURN! BUT THIS TIME, IT'S THE PRINCESS'S TURN! HERE'S THE PRINCESS OF PAIN, VIOLETTE!" Marthe announced as the spotlight appeared over Melanie and her bot.

"Let's give these people a show." Melanie said as she input a command into the remote as their music played.

It's so rad; her heart is black

she got your soul; won't give it back

forever lost

her eyes so dark; looks so cold

she whispers sweet; you lose control

the devi's daughter, she takes you by surprise

Just like her sister, Melanie and her bot sashayed toward the ring. However, unlike them, Melanie had her bot perform a combo that ended with Violette kicking in the air before taking a fighting stance. Once at the ring, Violette entered and went to her corner before doing a different combo as a way to taunt Gridlock.

"WE GOT VIOLETTE AGAINST GRIDLOCK! GRIDLOCK AGAINST VIOLETTE! LET'S SEE WHO COMES OUT ON TOP!" Marthe announced.

"Good luck." I said.

Nodding, Melanie had Violette move to close the distance between her and Gridlock. Gridlock attempted to do his three-hit combo consisting of two jabs to the face followed by a hook. Yet, he failed to hit Violette as she blocked the first two hits and faded back to evade the third. Melanie then tried to counter by having Violette attack Gridlock's head with an uppercut. However, to her shock and horror, Gridlock barely flinched or moved. He merely tilted his head before delivering a powerful cross that sent Violette back to her corner.

"IT SEEMS LIKE GRIDLOCK HAS BEEN HITTING THE GYM SINCE HIS DAYS AT THE WRB! CAN THE PRINCESS OF PAIN WITHSTAND IT? OR WILL GRIDLOCK BUCKLE UNDER THE PAIN!?" Marthe said.

'It seems like Gridlock's new handler gave him some upgrades.' I thought, remembering back during the WRB how weak Gridlock was. He might have been durable, but his punches never dealt significant damage. *'But it seemed like that changed.'*

It took a second for Melanie to regain control over Violette. But it was just in the nick of time as Gridlock closed the distance and attempted to land an overhead attack. Thankfully, Violette managed to duck under the attack and escape to the other end of the ring. Otherwise, it would have ended in disaster. However, Gridlock did something that I wasn't expecting. Instead of immediately rushing after Violette or taunting her, his handler made him walk over to Violette. Yet, all the while, Gridlock's handler remained cautious. And it paid off as it allowed her to dodge Violette's attack.

'Huh. Well, that is a drastic change from his old handler, who was hot-headed and always threw caution to the wind.' I thought.

After dodging the third strike, Gridlock blocked the fourth one. He then grabbed Violette's arm before throwing her to the center of the ring. Luckily, Melanie managed to keep Violette on her feet. However, instead of waiting, she had Violette immediately rush Gridlock. Yet, Gridlock effortlessly blocked her attacks before countering with a cross to the face. And then the same thing happened again. Gridlock's handler had her bot cautiously approach Violette. But this revealed to me Gridlock's weakness.

'Hmm. Seems like Gridlock's handler is overly cautious. She tries to prepare for whatever will come. But a good feint should open up his defense and allow Melanie to land a few solid blows.' I thought. *'Hopefully, Melanie figures that out soon.'*

Turning back to the fight, I saw Violette land a few blows to Gridlock's chest before backing off. Gridlock approached but leaned to the right when Violette threw a cross. He then countered with an uppercut that nearly sent Violette to the ground.

"Damn it." Melanie seethed as she had Violette back away from Gridlock.

"You can do this, Melanie." I told her.

"Just do what we did when we faced off against that blonde that wrecked our bar." Miltia added. And while I didn't see her face, I knew it lit up with an idea.

"That might just work." Militia said, smirking as she had Violette move to the edge of the ring and circle around.

Confused, Gridlock's handler had her bot mimic Violette. But after a few seconds, Gridlock approached Violette while keeping his hands up. And as soon as he reached the halfway point, Violette rushed him and attempted to throw a cross to the chest. Gridlock's handler, of course, thought of this and had Gridlock move to evade the attack. However, right before Violette reached him, Melanie stopped the attack and quickly changed to a hook. This caught Gridlock's handler off guard, which allowed Violette to land a few more hits. And by the end, a noticeable dent was on Gridlock's face.

Now worried, Gridlock's handler had her bot take a few steps back. But knowing the way to win the fight, Melanie had Violette chase after Gridlock. She then performed three attacks that Gridlock blocked before feinting a hook. Gridlock ducked, but this proved disastrous as Violette quickly followed up with a brutal uppercut that sent Gridlock back a few feet.

"NOW WE SEE THE PRINCESS OF PAIN IN ACTION! LET'S SEE HOW LONG GRIDLOCK CAN LAST!" Marthe said as the crowds cheered.

Quickly closing the distance again, Violette feinted yet another attack, ducked the counter, and retaliated with either a cross, hook, or overhead hit. Gridlock's handler tried to block the attacks and counter others, but she kept falling for the feints. And while Gridlock did manage to connect a few hits, Violette blocked most of them and evaded the rest due to her speed. Finally, after about five minutes of going back and forth, Violette ended the fight with a massive uppercut to the head that sent Gridlock to the floor. A referee quickly entered the ring and began that countdown. Gridlock's handler desperately tried to get her bot back on its feet. And for a moment,

Gridlock seemed like it would but fell back down. The countdown resumed and reached ten.

"AND THE GRIDLOCK IS OVER WITH VIOLETTE RETAINING HER TITLE OF THE PRINCESS OF PAIN!" Marthe announced. "IT SEEMS LIKE THE PUREBLOODS HAVE WON THEIR FIRST MATCHES! BUT DON'T GO AWAY YET. WE STILL HAVE MORE MATCHES COMING YOUR WAY RIGHT AFTER THE BREAK!"

"Good job. You all won your first match." I said as I helped Melanie get her bot out of the ring. "How was it?"

"Intense." The Twins said, with Neo nodding in agreement.

"Well. The matches are done. Let's head back to the repair area so I can look over your bots and repair them." I said.

"Alright." They said as Melanie had the bot follow us. However, for some reason, the same feeling I had earlier, where I felt I was being watched, returned. Yet, it left my mind when the twins leaned into me while Neo jumped on my back.

Notes:

Songs used:

Pumping Iron Power by Grailknights

Konichiwa Bitches by Robyn

Princess of Pain by S nake-Bite

Hero by Skillet

Space Cowboy by Nsync and Lisa Lopes*

Monster is Loose by Meatloaf

***Had a difficult time finding a suitable song for Dj Electrix so I chose a random song from an EDM list.**